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THE CHRONICLES OF OKLAHOMA

JAMES W. MOFFITT, *Editor*     MURIEL H. WRIGHT, *Associate Editor*

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## JENNIE HARRIS OLIVER

*By Bess Truitt*

A popular writer-poet of her day, Jennie Harris Oliver was loved and honored by Oklahomans. She was respected throughout the Nation, and across the seas her stories and poems were received and read.

Jennie Harris Oliver, the eldest child of the Reverend George W. and Mary Ann Walton Harris, was born on March 18, 1864, at Lowell, Michigan, and died on June 6, 1942, in an Oklahoma City hospital, following an illness of several months. A simple funeral service was held in the Baptist Church, Guthrie, Oklahoma, with special music by her friends during the years, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Merten. Interment was in the family burial plot in the Guthrie cemetery beside the graves of her husband and her mother. Her immediate survivors are her three brothers: A. A. Harris, Guthrie; F. O. Harris, Chickasha; and George A. Harris, Cache, Oklahoma.

Though the formal education of Mrs. Oliver was limited to the grammar schools of her native Michigan yet she was an avid reader and a student throughout her life. At the age of sixteen years, she began teaching in her home town. In 1891, the young teacher moved to Kansas, and the following year, to Oklahoma Territory, locating at Fallis, in Logan county. It was here while teaching that she met and married Lloyd L. Oliver, in 1900.

It was in the village of Fallis atop "The Long Red Hill" that Jennie Harris Oliver began to write. In her last book, *Pen Alchemy*, she related how her first story, sold to Bob Davis of *Munsey's Magazine* for ten dollars, was "pecked out" on a borrowed typewriter on ironed-out wrapping paper. One story in long hand sold (a half a cent a word was the limit in those days). Later markets were *All-Story* and *Pearsons*. Then *Hollands* purchased "Flowers of Judgment." All the time *Munsey's* was buying her stories, paying as high as thirty dollars apiece. It was months later that "The Music and The Dream" sold for one hundred and seventy-five dollars. It was this story which with the consent of the purchasing editor afterward became a part of the "Mokey Delano" series.

Then *Good Housekeeping* bought "Interrupted Ghost," and from that time, Mr. Bigelow used Jennie Harris Oliver's fiction and poems as long as he was editor of this magazine. The March (1931) issue of *Good Housekeeping* featured Mrs. Oliver, using her picture which, she said, "Is English like my mother, but did not show my hands which are pure Scotch."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Acknowledgment is due Jennie Harris Oliver, *Pen Alchemy*, (Oklahoma City: The Dunn Pub. Co., 1938), for data used in the preparation of this sketch.





JENNIE HARRIS OLIVER



At last Oklahoma became conscious of the genius and talent of Jennie Harris Oliver. Various women's clubs throughout the state first recognized her. They came to see her and invited her to visit their clubs, giving teas and dinners in her honor. Jennie lived in "a blaze of glory." She enjoyed the attention and the music but was too timid to say a word. Eventually, the Irish within her came into its own and she began making public appearances, reading her own poems, at first either before women's clubs or college groups.

Working entirely from blue prints, she laid the scenes of her famous Joie Nash stories on the campus of Oklahoma A. and M. College, at Stillwater. Years afterward, she was entertained by Mabel Caldwell of the English Department in the College and personally conducted by adoring students along the streets that she had made famous.

About this time every envelope received contained a check for the slender writer on "The Long Red Hill." Her income from writing was well above the five figure bracket. A home with grounds and some of the comforts of life were hers for the first time.

The years passed swiftly. She wrote and wrote mostly from instinct. When an editor in New York commented that a certain story reminded him of a Chinese puzzle, she learned for the first time that there was such a thing as view-point in writing.

It was the year after Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer bought "Mokey" that her "Little Blind Mother" died. Some months later, in the summer of 1933, came the death of her husband, Lloyd. Finding the empty house intolerable, she went to live—or die—with her brother, George, near Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in what she termed "My Purple Valley." Here she found writing difficult, although "Joseph's Coat" was authored for *Household Magazine* and the rights sold in England.

Returning to her memories and "The Long Red Hill", she found it easier to write. Her poems now printed and bound as *Red Earth* were traveling far and wide. Lord Halifax, the Chancellor of Oxford University, England, wrote commenting favorably on the second edition.<sup>2</sup>

"Mokey" had found a place in the Universities of Baylor, Boulder, and Columbia as a psychological study. Jennie's fan-mail now had attained considerable proportions and visitors from everywhere were seeking her out. She basked in the sunshine of their love and admiration and, in turn, gave freely of her time in encouragement and help to all aspiring writers who called upon her.

The annual caravan to her home in June, sponsored by the Oklahoma State Writers organization, had by this time become an

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<sup>2</sup>Lord Halifax, present English Ambassador to the United States.

institution and a much looked-for event in her lonely life. Here under the junipers by the lily pond-lion basin was spread the basket dinner followed by a program of music and poetry, always with Jennie concluding the occasion with some of her own poems. In later years, these pilgrimages supplemented by visits from writer friends made her life tolerable. Ill health and near blindness forced her to employ a companion-housekeeper.

In 1938, she wrote of the Easter Pageant in the Wichita Mountains near Lawton. This story, called "Before Sunrise," appeared in the April issue of *Good Housekeeping*. The author told about the sale of this story, in the following words:<sup>3</sup>

"It seemed to require all Oklahoma with the Associated Press to convince my Editor there was a 'Holy City' in the valley of the Wichita Mountains and a pageant where smoke-planes wrote 'Christ Arose' on the sky, that a twenty-year-old girl could travel there by bus unattended!

"Alpha Hart, executive cameraman for Walter M. Harrison of *The Times* and *Oklahoman*, arose before day to print and dispatch air-mail photographs. I, myself, sent the profile of Joe Fitzpatrick as 'Hart Mathuen' in the miracle scene before the cross with the front view of Nyra Abell as 'Sara McElhaney' in the dressing room of Pilate's Judgment Hall."

Mrs. Oliver had attended the Pageant in 1937 in company with Doctor Bailey of Oklahoma A. and M. College. At Easter time, 1938, she lay in her own room with a broken back. The Pageant did not forget her. The Reverend Mark Wallock and the Pageant Board sent her a sheaf of Easter lilies and Talisman roses, and her telegram of thanks was broadcast ahead of the President's message. "I am sure Mr. Roosevelt did not mind," she afterward wrote.

It was later in the season that Lawton's Chamber of Commerce planned a Jennie Harris Oliver Day, with a plane to convey her there, a parade, and a banquet in the evening. Though her back was in a plaster cast, she was happy: "The Irish of it. Even in trouble, I can be quite gay, for does not the blackest water somehow get under the bridge."

The years were taking their toll. Accented by grief, loneliness, and improper nourishment, the gentle author of Fallis was losing her health. Her bones crumbled at the least provocation. It was at a Writers' convention in Stillwater that Jennie crushed her ankle and found herself later in a hospital for the first time in her life. For this reason, she was unable to accept Jessie Wiley Voils' invitation to Radio City, New York, and the invitation to read before

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<sup>3</sup> *Pen Alchemy*, op. cit.



The National League of American Pen Women at their annual meeting in Washington, D. C.

With the permission of Mr. Bigelow, Editor of *Good Housekeeping*, and other editors, her stories had been published in book form by the Burton Publishing Company, Kansas City, Missouri, appearing under the titles of "It Is Morning" and "Mokey." And the third edition of *Red Earth* was also published.

She was now writing infrequently. Because many people wanted to know more about her and her life, she wrote *Pen Alchemy* which was published by The Dunn Publishing Company, of Oklahoma City.

In 1939, Mrs. Oliver was named as an honored member of the "Hall of Fame" by the Oklahoma Memorial Association. In the same year, at the suggestion of Kenneth Kaufman writing in his column on the "Book Page" of the Sunday edition, *The Daily Oklahoman*, she was named Poet Laureate of the State, by Acting Governor James E. Berry. The Poetry Society honored her at a special meeting in the Skirvin Hotel soon afterward, and she was greatly in demand as a reader of her own poetry throughout the state.

It was while she was a patient in The Hubbard Hospital of Oklahoma City that she wrote her last stories in collaboration with her protege, Joe Fitzpatrick. These were published in a book entitled *The Singing Hand*.

Partially recovered, she returned to her home in Fallis. An occasional poem and a foreword for a friend's book were now all that she could manage. Ill and disheartened, she craved love and attention but refused to leave her isolated home. It was only when desperately ailing that she consented to be moved to a hospital for treatment. Arrangements were made for placing her in an Oklahoma City hospital, where her friends were in constant attendance, ministering to her needs. The end came after two weeks.

Gentle, kind, and trusting, Jennie Harris Oliver may be counted among the truly great. In her writings she depicted life's struggles and triumphs. Her characters though poor and lowly were never coarse nor common. Much of her prose was pure poetry.<sup>4</sup>

The following may not be classed as her greatest poem but it glimpses the philosophy by which she lived:

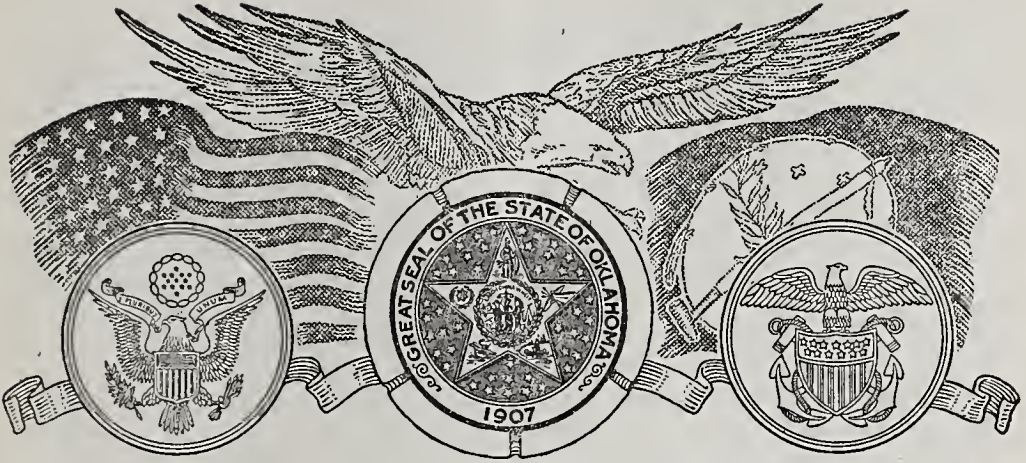
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<sup>4</sup> Several master's theses have been written about her published works and recently the publication of an "all-poetry" magazine called *Red Earth* has been launched as a tribute to her memory.

*OMISSION*

I'm sorry, Lord, that I forgot to pray!  
The wind across my bed was oh so sweet  
The April bloom; and on my window-seat  
The full moon paved a white untroubled way  
Where I might see, with sleep-contented eyes  
The day I loved with all its humble deeds—  
The tramp I fed; my gift of flower-seeds;  
The dress I craved and gave as a surprise!

The April wind blew sweet across my bed  
And brought the morning. Now a mocking bird  
Sings in the maple branches at my head  
And all my sky with hope is brightly stirred.  
So, here beside me is another day—  
I'm sorry, Lord, that I forgot to pray!



## OKLAHOMA WAR MEMORIAL—WORLD WAR II

### Part III\*

CLIFFORD A. ALDRICH, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Okay, Wagoner County. Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Aldrich, Parents, Southeast of Wagoner. Born July 25, 1922. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Member of Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted September 22, 1939. Served in 45th Division. Died July 14, 1943, in Sicily.

GEORGE RAY ANDERSON, Fireman, Second Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Apache, Caddo County. Mrs. Laura Warner Anderson, Mother, 240 East Ave., Napa, California. Born December 16, 1921. Enlisted September 8, 1942. Trained at Diesel Engineering School, Houston, Texas, and completed training in New Orleans, Louisiana. Died November 6, 1943, in South Pacific.

CLOYCE M. ARCHER, First Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Okmulgee, Okmulgee County. Mrs. Sara H. Archer, Wife, 422 East 7th St., Okmulgee. Born October 25, 1918. Enlisted February 13, 1941. Served in 45th Division. Died October 15, 1943, in Italy.

J. C. ATHEY, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Anadarko, Caddo County. Mrs. Catherine Alice Athey, Wife, Apache. Born March 10, 1921. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted September 25, 1939. Served as Technician, 5th Grade, 45th Division. Died July 16, 1943, in Italy.

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\* Oklahoma War Memorial—World War II, Part I, was published in *The Chronicles*, XXI (December, 1943), and Part II, in XXII (Spring, 1944). Other lists of biographies of those from Oklahoma who have died in the service in World War II will be published in future issues of this quarterly magazine.—Muriel H. Wright.



VIRGIL R. AUTRY, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Butler, Custer County. Mrs. Mary F. Autry, Mother, Butler. Born March 12, 1917. Enlisted March, 1940. Served with Anti-tank Company. Died October 11, 1943, in Italy.

VOYNE BAGGETT, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Strong City, Roger Mills County. Mrs. W. B. Lauer, Sister, 1912 Howard St., Whittier, California. Born January 23, 1915. Enlisted December 3, 1943. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served as Communication Sergeant in 3rd Division. Made the invasion in November, 1942, into Africa, and lowered the first American flag to fly over Sicily. Died August 4, 1943, in Sicily.

LONNIE BAKER, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Yeager, Hughes County. Mrs. Sarah A. Baker, Mother, Yeager. Born November 18, 1916. Enlisted January 6, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served as a commando and was specially praised for his courage, by his commanding officer. Died December 29, 1942, in New Guinea.

CHARLEY BAILEY, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Beggs, Okmulgee County. Rena Bailey, Mother, Rt. 2, Beggs. Born December 2, 1915. Enlisted June 15, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died January 20, 1943, in Guadalcanal.

HALLEY L. BAHNER, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Ardmore, Carter County. Ralph Waldo Bahner, Father, Ardmore. Born May 14, 1910. Enlisted May 4, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Graduated Plainview High School. Served with Headquarters Company. Died August 12, 1943, in North African area.

GLENN (O. G.) BANE, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Nash, Grant County. W. E. Bane, Uncle, Elgin, Oklahoma. Born October 22, 1906. Enlisted March, 1942. Served as mechanic with Fighter Squadron. Died September 24, 1943, Port Angeles, Washington.

WILLIAM RAYMOND BARKER, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Reed, Greer County. Mrs. Christine Brown Barker, Mother, Rt. 1, Reed. Born November 1, 1920. Enlisted October 13, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Graduated, Valedictorian of his class, Reed High School, 1937; in student activities, was president of his junior and his senior class, president of Student Council, president of 4-H Club, winning first place in Greer County in 4-H Club work for three years on his "Timely Topic." Attended Capitol Hill Junior College, Oklahoma City, and the University of Oklahoma, receiving appointment as flying cadet in his junior year. Commissioned at Stockton Field, California, May 29, 1941. Sailed for Australia on January 31, 1942, where he served with a Bombing Group. Mem-



orial services were held at Fife Bay, Papua, in Lawes College, May 3, 1942. Died April 24, 1942, when his B-25, medium bomber, ran out of fuel and was forced down, at Mullens Harbor, Papua, New Guinea. Buried, with pilot's seat as a headstone, on seashore, Papua, New Guinea.

SOMERS E. BARNETT, JR., First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Ada, Pontotoc County. Mrs. Somers E. Barnett, Sr., Mother 617 North Beard, Ada. Born November 17, 1915. Enlisted November 1, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Graduated Eufaula High School, Eufaula; Connors State Agricultural College, Warner; East Central College, Ada. Director of Music and Religious Education for Connell Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Texas, three years while working on a master's degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Served as Navigator-bombardier in the air forces. Died December 19, 1942, near Casablanca, in North-west Africa.

REUBEN WOODROW BAUGHMAN, Radioman, Third Class, U. S. Naval Air Corps. Home address: Geronimo, Comanche County. Lee A. Baughman, Father, Geronimo. Born August 1, 1925. Enlisted June 7, 1942. Honor student in High School sports. Trained in radio school and machine gunnery at Jacksonville, Florida. Died June 18, 1943, in Panama Canal Zone.

WILBURN S. BEARD, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Atoka, Atoka County. Mrs. Luke Beard, Mother, Atoka. Born March 23, 1915. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted May 1, 1936. Served in 45th Division. Died September 21, 1943, in North African area.

EDGAR L. BELL, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Moorewood, Custer County. Mrs. Lizzie E. Bell, Mother, Moorewood. Born September 7, 1919. Enlisted September 29, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died August 29, 1943, in New Guinea.

DOYLE D. BERTRAM, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Wagoner, Wagoner County. Mr. A. S. Bertram, Father, Rt. 1, Wagoner. Born December 4, 1919. Enlisted January 13, 1941. Member First Baptist Church, Wagoner, baptised August, 1938. Served in 45th Division. Died July 14, 1943, in North African area.

PAUL "RED BIRD" BITCHENEN, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Watonga, Blaine County. Mrs. Blanche R. Bitchenen, Wife, Watonga. Born July 7, 1908. Enlisted January 9, 1941. Credited by Lt. General Mark Clark, commander of the American Fifth Army in Italy, as the Oklahoma Indian who shouted, "Hi-yah, Christopher Columbus! We're here to return that little visit," when the American troops landed on the beach at Salerno, Italy. First Cheyenne-Arapaho tribesman lost in World War II. Died November 6, 1943, in action in Italy.

GLENN A. BLACKBURN, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. Lillian E. Blackburn, Mother, 4647 South 33rd W. Ave., Tulsa. Born November 10, 1922. Enlisted January 6, 1941. Decoration: Air Medal. Died May 9, 1943, in Latin American area.

HARRY E. BONIFIELD, Aviation Cadet, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Eva C. Starr, Mother, 687 Ogden Meadows, Vancouver, Washington. Born June 7, 1921. Enlisted September, 1940. Graduated Classen High School, Oklahoma City. Member Classen High School Band and Oklahoma City University Band; awarded six medals in National Music Contest at Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1938. Enlisted in Oklahoma National Guard band, 1938; served with 45th Division in Oklahoma and Texas; afterward enlisted in Army Air Corps radio school, graduating at Scott Field, Illinois. Died October 20, 1943, airplane crash, San Marcos, Texas.

MARVIN BRADLEY, Captain, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Stillwater, Payne County. Mrs. M. J. Bradley, Mother, Stillwater. Born January 29, 1918. Enlisted May, 1942. Stationed at Army Air Base, Reno, Nevada; had 4,000 hours flying as instructor in Ferry Command. Died September 23, 1943; in airplane crash routine training flight, near McCloud, California.

LESLIE P. BRASEL, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army. Home address: Drumright, Creek County. D. B. Brasel, Father, c/o Marquette Pharmacy, Drumright. Born November 7, 1915. Enlisted January 28, 1942. Graduated University of Oklahoma, 1938; member Reserve Officer Training Corps. Died March 15, 1943, in North African area and buried at Tobessa, an American cemetery in North Africa.

RALPH S. BRINK, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Hominy, Osage County. Mrs. Enis Brink, Mother, Hominy. Born August 13, 1926. Enlisted October 25, 1940. Prisoner in Japanese camp for sixteen months. Died June 29, 1943, in Japanese prison camp, Philippine Islands.

CALVIN G. BROWN (also, written CALVIN CHARLES BROWN), Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Duncan, Stephens County. Mrs. Annie Brown Davis, Mother, 1208 Ash Ave., Duncan. Born August 9, 1915. Enlisted March, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Graduated Cameron State School of Agriculture, Lawton; attended University of Oklahoma, 1938-39. Trained at Maxwell Field and Monroe, Louisiana. Graduated from School of Navigation, received wings, and commissioned on December 26, 1942. Sailed for overseas duty April 27, 1943. Served as Navigator on heavy bomber (Liberator). Died July 7, 1943, in line of duty, in Southwest Pacific.

JACK LEFLORE BROWN, Lieutenant, Senior Grade, U. S. Navy. Home address: Tahlequah. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown, Parents, Tahlequah. Born September 15, 1918. Graduated U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, 1941. Of Choctaw Indian descent, member of well known LeFlore family. Served with the fleet two years, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Three service stars for action at Pearl Harbor and in the Midway and the Coral Sea battles. At call for volunteers from his class, entered aviation. Trained at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, and at Pensacola, Florida, and would have received wings November 3, 1943. Died October 29, 1943, in airplane collision and crash due to heavy rain and low ceiling, near Pensacola, Florida. Funeral services at First Presbyterian Church and burial at Tahlequah.

KELLY B. BROWN, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Ardmore, Carter County. Mrs. Lula M. Brown, Mother, 129 A. Street, N.W., Ardmore. Birth October 6, 1910. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; Silver Star awarded posthumously. Served in 45th Division. Awarded medal in marksmanship. Died September 19, 1943, of wounds received in action, North African area.

JOHN F. BROWN, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Sasakwa, Seminole County. . Louis C. Brown, Father, Sasakwa. Born August 27, 1921. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Grandson of Governor John F. Brown, chief of the Seminole Nation. Enlisted as member of the Oklahoma National Guard, 1938. Served in 45th Division. Died July 12, 1943, in action, in Sicily.

ROY BROWN, Pharmacist, First Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Chattanooga, Comanche County. W. E. Brown, Father, Chattanooga. Born February 12, 1898. Enlisted January, 1942. Served in the U. S. Navy in World War I, four years. Died August 2, 1943, from injuries received in fall on board ship, New York, New York.

FRANCIS E. BURNS, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Indianola, Pittsburg County. Claud Burns, Father, McAlester. Born April 4, 1920. Enlisted January 10, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served with infantry, under the command of General Douglas MacArthur. Died December 18, 1942, in action, Southwest Pacific.

CHARLIE LEROY CASEY, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Haworth, McCurtain County. Mr. and Mrs. John Athol Casey, Parents, Haworth. Born September 2, 1917. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member of the Oklahoma National Guard. Served in 45th Division. Died July 25, 1943, in North African area.



PHILIP S. CARDIN, Private, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. Kathryn Cardin, Mother, c/o J. I. Ingram, 2760 Hampshire Road, Cleveland, Ohio. Born March 31, 1923. Enlisted December 8, 1941. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; Citation of Honor from General H. H. Arnold, awarded posthumously. Attended Holy Family and Central High schools, Tulsa. Trained at Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado; Medill Field, Tampa, Florida; and Turret School, Walla Walla, Washington. Sailed for overseas duty, landing in England in September, 1942. Served as specialist in charge of repair and maintenance of turrets. Volunteered and flew as a Ball Turrent operator on Flying Fortress. Reported missing on March 4, 1943 to July 31, 1943. Died March 4, 1943, somewhere in England.

HENRY BEN CAUDILL, JR., Ensign, U. S. Naval Air Corps. Home address: Pawhuska, Osage County. Mrs. Josephine Mathews Caudill, Mother, 100 East 12th Street, Pawhuska. Born August 4, 1918. Enlisted December, 1941. Of Osage Indian descent, nephew of John Joseph Mathews; grandson of William J. Caudill, delegate to Oklahoma Constitutional Convention. Graduated Pawhuska High School, 1937; Notre Dame University (B.A.), 1941. Called to active service as aviation cadet in June, 1942. Trained at Naval Base, Glenview, Illinois, and Corpus Christi, Texas, where he was commissioned Ensign in Naval Aviation Reserve and received his wings as Fighter Pilot on April 17, 1943. In operational training at Naval Air Base, Melbourne, Florida. Died June 2, 1943, in airplane crash near Malabar Field, Florida. Funeral services at Immaculate Conception Church and burial at Pawhuska.

JOHN ELLSWORTH CAUDILL, Fireman, Second Class, U. S. Coast Guard. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Nouvella C. Caudill, Mother, 1236 West 3rd Street, Oklahoma City. Born February 26, 1920. Enlisted March, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart, awarded posthumously. Member of Church of Christ, Culbertson Heights, Oklahoma City. Attended Central High School; participated in Golden Glove tournament. Attached to Amphibious Boat Pool. A letter from U. S. Coast Guard Commander, St. Louis 9th Naval District Acting, stated: "He was the type of man who would go out of his way to do just a little more than his orders called for. He served with credit to himself, his family, and his country." Died August 18, 1943, in action during the initial invasion of Baanga, Island, New Georgia, Southwest Pacific.

BEN CLEMONS, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Hartshorne, Pittsburg County. Mrs. Fredena Clemons, Wife, Hartshorne. Born November 10, 1921. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member of Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted 1939. Served in 45th Division. Died July 16, 1943, from wounds received in action, in Italy.



REUBEN B. COLBERT, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Wagoner, Wagoner County. R. W. Colbert, Father, Wagoner. Born August 31st, 1923. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted September 11, 1939. Served in 45th Division. Died July 12, 1943, in action, in Sicily. Buried near Biscari.

BLAINE COLE, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. Madge B. Cole, Mother, 3751 Edgehill Drive, Los Angeles, California. Born May 11, 1913. Enlisted June 20, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Graduated University of Missouri. Member Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Served with an Amphibian Brigade. Died November 10, 1942, in action, Oran, Algeria, North Africa.

ALLEN L. CRAIN, Captain, U. S. Army. Home address: Seminole, Seminole County. Mrs. Elnora W. Crain, Wife, 225 East 4th Street, Seminole. Born April 26, 1907. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; Silver Star. Member of Sac and Fox Indian tribe and of Seminole ancestry. Great-nephew of Governor John F. Brown, Seminole Nation, and of Mrs. Alice Brown Davis, only woman chief of the Seminoles. Member Baptist Church. Attended Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted July 22, 1925. Member Masonic Lodge, 32nd Degree Mason, Seminole. Served with Field Artillery, 45th Division. Died October 7, 1943, in action, somewhere in Italy.

JOEL DAVID CROWNOVER, Aviation Cadet, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Antlers, Pushmataha County. Mrs. Mary Mae Crownover, Mother, Antlers. Born October 16, 1923. Enlisted June 5, 1942. Together with his twin brother graduated from Antlers High School, Antlers, 1942. Trained at the University of Georgia; Air Base, Olathe, Kansas; and Corpus Christi, Texas. Would have received his commission and wings in three more weeks. Died April 25, 1943, in airplane crash, Kings Field, Corpus Christi, Texas.

AUBREY J. DENTON, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army. Home address: Blackwell, Kay County. G. W. Denton, Father, Blackwell. Born October 11, 1910. Enlisted October 14, 1941. Graduated University of Oklahoma, Geology, 1934. Died September 1, 1943, in accident on artillery maneuvers, Fort Benning, Georgia.

J. REES DEWS, Photographer's Mate, Second Class, Seabees, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Chickasha, Grady County. Mrs. J. Rees Dews, Wife, 1128 Chickasha Ave., Chickasha. Born March 6, 1910. Enlisted February, 1942. Member of pioneer Oklahoma family, residents in Chickasha over fifty years. Florist until elected head of orchard and nursery division of State Board of Agriculture, 1939; resigned to volunteer for war service. Upon completion of

training, sent to Guadalcanal where he served from October, 1942, to May, 1943. Returned to Pensacola, Florida, for special training in Naval Photography School. Died October 11, 1943, in airplane crash on routine photography flight, Pensacola, Florida.

EVERETT D. DILLEY, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Skiatook, Osage County. Mr. and Mrs. Wash Dilley, Parents, Skiatook. Born September 19, 1919. Enlisted January 9, 1941. Overseas fifteen months. Died October 6, 1943, in North African area.

THOMAS J. DONNELL, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Webbers Falls, Muskogee County. John Donnell, Father, Webbers Falls. Born October 29, 1910. Enlisted January 14, 1941. Died September 11, 1943, in North African area.

RANDOLPH DONALSON, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Hollis, Harmon County. M. M. Donalson, Father, Hollis. Born June 11, 1919. Enlisted July 9, 1941. Commissioned and received his wings at Hondo, Texas, October 17, 1942. Served as Navigator. Working on a theory of his own, perfected a chart simplifying the steps used in celestial navigation, saving the use of several instruments, and reducing the steps from six to two, an innovation commended by his commanding officer and adopted by the squadrons over the field. Died February 5, 1943, in airplane crash, Greenville, South Carolina.

MICHAEL WILLIAM EAGAN, Sergeant, Medical Corps, U. S. Army. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick P. Eagan, 2239 S. Quanah Ave., Tulsa. Born June 20, 1920. Enlisted January 1, 1937. Served as Keeper of Hospital Records, Corregidor Island, twenty-three months. Japanese prisoner of war from April, 1942, to May, 1944. Died May 14, 1944, in Japanese Cantonment Camp, as reported by Red Cross, Muskin, China.

REEFORD WARREN ELAM, Fireman, First Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Laverne, Harper County. Mr. and Mrs. Shelby C. Elam, Parents, Laverne. Born August 12, 1921. Enlisted July 27, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died August 21, 1943, in Southwest Pacific.

CHARLES E. ELLIS, JR., First Lieutenant, U. S. Army. Home address: Sapulpa, Creek County. Ruby J. Ellis, Sister, 312 South Elm, Sapulpa. Born May 24, 1920. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted October 25, 1939. Served with Engineer Corps. Died August 14, 1943, in Sicily.

RICHARD T. ELLISON, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. H. L. Ellison, Mother, 1520 N. Boston Place, Tulsa 6. Born August 6, 1920. Enlisted

January 16, 1942. Awarded medals for aerial gunnery and ground gunnery. Served as Pilot and Senior Instructor. Died June 27, 1943, in airplane crash during performance of duty on routine night weather patrol, Moore Field, Mission, Texas.

HOWARD L. ENSLOW, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Pawhuska, Osage County. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Enslow, Parents, 1012 East 9th St., Pawhuska. Born April 2, 1919. Enlisted February 2, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in Field Artillery, 45th Division. Died September 16, 1943, in North African area.

ROBERT KING EVANS, Chief Carpenter's Mate, U. S. Navy. Home address: Holdenville, Hughes County. Mrs. Eva Mae Evans, Wife, 609 S. Echo St., Holdenville. Born March 28, 1911. Enlisted April 18, 1942. Served overseas in Construction Battalion (Seabees), from November, 1942, to July, 1943. Died July 2, 1943, during enemy air raid, on Rendova Island, Solomon Islands.

JOHN B. FARRAR, JR., First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Shidler, Osage County. Mrs. J. B. Farrar, Sr., Mother, Shidler. Born August 19, 1918. Enlisted October 16, 1940. Member Presbyterian Church. Attended "The School of the Ozarks" (Presbyterian) three years, Point Lookout, Missouri, and Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri. Graduated Arkansas College (B.A.) with honors, 1940, Batesville, Missouri. Life member Alpha Psi Omega. Trained at Spartan School of Aeronautics, Tulsa, and at Randolph Field, Texas; graduated Kelly Field, Texas, receiving commission and wings May 29, 1941. Arrived Hawaii July 1, 1941; served as instructor in mathematics and athletic coach for his squadron. Died July 23, 1942 (official date July 23, 1943), en route by plane for service at Midway, in Pacific Ocean.

QUANAH PARKER FIELDS, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Grove, Delaware County. Jeff Fields, Father, Grove. Born September 30, 1915. Enlisted December 28, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Of Cherokee descent, completed course (junior high school) at Seneca Indian School, Wyandotte, Oklahoma, winning many honors in scholastic contests and several medals and trophies in athletics. In 4-H Club work, adjudged Oklahoma's "Healthiest Boy," in 1930, and represented the State at the 4-H Club Congress and International Livestock Show at Chicago, Illinois, that year. Meeting scholastic requirements (Presbyterian Church program), was selected as student and attended American Indian Institute, Wichita, Kansas, where he was again outstanding in scholarship and athletics during his college years. Before graduation, passed examinations for training as aviation cadet in the Air Corps. Trained at San Diego, California, and Randolph Field, Texas; received his commission and wings



at Kelly Field, Texas, and was transferred (August, 1941) to Hamilton Field, California, sailing for overseas' duty in November, 1941. Died February 20, 1942, in action, in South Seas.

THEODORE FLEETWOOD, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Muldrow, Sequoyah County. Mrs. Odetta Hendricks, Sister, Rt. 2, Ft. Worth, Texas. Born October 31, 1918. Enlisted January 20, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in Medical Battalion, 45th Division, in the invasion of Sicily. Died October 10, 1943, in action in Italy.

CECIL J. FLOYD, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Elmore City, Garvin County. Mrs. Georgia L. Bullard, Sister, Rt. 4, Elmore City. Born June 24, 1918. Enlisted August, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died December 20, 1942, in Western Europe.

ROBERT WILLIAM FOLTZ, Radio Technician, First Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Guthrie, Logan County. Mrs. Charles F. Foltz, Mother, 1902 West Warner, Guthrie. Born October 14, 1916. Enlisted January 12, 1942. Member First Presbyterian Church, Guthrie. Graduated Guthrie High School, 1934. Died October 9, 1943, in action, off coast of Salerno, Italy.

HERBERT FORD, Sergeant, Engineer Corps, U. S. Army. Home address: Ada, Pontotoc County. Mrs. Herbert Ford, Wife, Fittstown. Born September 9, 1914. Enlisted April 17, 1941. Died November 18, 1942, in Southwest Pacific area.

CHARLES FRANKLIN, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Durant, Bryan County. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Franklin, Parents, 1316 West Evergreen, Durant. Born September 22, 1920. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Of Chickasaw Indian descent. Graduated Durant High School and attended Southeastern State College, Durant. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted June 2, 1937. Served in Signal Company, 45th Division. Died August 7, 1943, in Sicily.

BENJAMIN C. FREENY, Technical Sergeant, Medical Corps, U. S. Army. Home address: Caddo, Bryan County. Mrs. J. W. Freeny, Mother, Caddo. Born January 21, 1922. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Of Choctaw Indian descent. Member of Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted May 2, 1940. Served in 45th Division. Participated in the Sicilian and the Italian campaigns. Died September 11, 1943, in action, in North African area.

MERLIN GEHRINGER, Seaman, Second Class, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Canton, Blaine County. Jacob Gehringer, Father, Canton. Born October 14, 1922. Enlisted January 26, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Died March 5, 1943, in action, in Pacific area.

DAVID LEO GILBERT, Seaman, Second Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Salt Fork, Grant County. Leo Gilbert, Father, Salt Fork. Born September 27, 1923. Enlisted June 10, 1941. Died October 11, 1942, in action on board ship, near Guadalcanal, Southwest Pacific.

RAYMOND H. GOBIN, Ensign, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Tyrone, Texas County. Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Gobin, Parents, Tyrone. Born March 23, 1917. Enlisted January 2, 1942. Graduated Eureka High School, Texas County; attended Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical College, Goodwell, Oklahoma. Trained at New Orleans, Louisiana; Pensacola, Florida; Corpus Christi, Texas, receiving wings October 2, 1942. Died January 25, 1943, in airplane crash, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

RALPH D. GODWIN, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Antlers, Pushmataha County. Francis B. Godwin, Father, Antlers. Born June 30, 1922. Enlisted November 9, 1942. Died October 15, 1943, in Italy.

DOYLE GRAHAM, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Norman, Cleveland County. Mrs. Lorene Mize, Sister, 29980 Arden Road, Hayward, California. Born January 24, 1920. Enlisted December 18, 1941. In training, advanced flying school, Napier Field, Alabama. Died June 8, 1943, of pneumonia, Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia.

GEOFFREY A. GROVES, Electrician's Mate, Second Class, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Seminole, Seminole County. J. D. Groves, 516 North First Street, Seminole. Born November 9, 1919. Enlisted August, 1941. Finished High School, Red Fork, 1937. Attended an electrical college, Chicago, one year. Cited for bravery under fire. Died November 13, 1942, at sea.

GALE W. HARLOW, Private First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Cushing, Payne County. George Harlow, Father, Cushing. Born September 6, 1923. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in Medical Battalion. Died September 22, 1943, in African area.

LUCIAN F. HARRIS, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Ada, Pontotoc County. Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Harris, Parents, 939 East 7th, Ada. Born November 1, 1915. Enlisted March 23, 1942. Graduated Horace Mann High School, Ada, 1934; attended East Central State College, Ada, and University of Oklahoma, Norman. Died February 2, 1943, in airplane crash night flying, Brooks Field, San Antonio, Texas.

CONRAD T. HENDRICK, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Duke, Jackson County. Burlin Hendrick, Brother, Duke. Born April 21, 1909. Enlisted January, 1941. Decoration: Order

of the Purple Heart. Served in Artillery, 45th Division. Died July 10, 1943, in North Africa.

SWAIN HIGBEE, Flight Officer, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Lexington, Cleveland County. Mrs. Sallie Higbee, Mother, Rt. 2, Lexington. Born October 27, 1919. Enlisted November 19, 1940. Received wings Ellington Field, Houston, Texas, September 6, 1942. Died February 23, 1943, in airplane crash, McDill Field, Tampa, Florida.

ROBERT HUNTER, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: McCurtain, Haskell County. Mrs. Barney Hunter, Mother, Tahlequah. Born March 10, 1919. Enlisted December, 1941. Graduated Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, 1941. Served as Gunner on B-24 Liberator. Died September 2, 1943, in airplane crash, Sioux City, Iowa.

DIXIE G. JACKSON, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Ringling, Jefferson County. Mrs. Louise Jackson, Mother, Ringling. Born April 17, 1917. Transferred December 1, 1942, to U. S. Fighter Group, after serving about one year in the Royal Air Force, British Isles. Decorations: Air Medal; Oak Leaf Cluster. Served somewhere in England, flying Thunderbolt fighter plane. Died July 14, 1943, European area.

C. CLARK JAMES, Captain, Ordnance, U. S. Army. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. C. C. Clark, Wife, 2520 Western Ave., Mattoon, Illinois. Born June 1, 1913. Enlisted April 1, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Awarded The American Legion Gold Star Citation. Graduated School of Engineering, University of Oklahoma, 1936. Stationed at Nichols Field, Philippine Islands. Praised for work on Bataan. Died May 3, 1942, in action, Corregidor Island, Philippine Islands.

WILLIS N. JARBOE, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Norman, Cleveland County. Mrs. Elza Jarboe, Mother, 129 West Eu-  
faula, Norman. Born September 14, 1917. Enlisted September 28, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Graduated Lexington High School, Lexington, Oklahoma; and University of Oklahoma, 1941. Participated in Methodist Church youth activities. Member University Players and El Modjii. Served in Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Division. Sailed for overseas duty June 8, 1943. Died October 5, 1943, in action, in Italy.

WILLIAM R. JEWELL, JR., Private, First Class, U. S. Marine Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. Lois Jewel, Mother, 1500 South Frisco, Tulsa. Born December 20, 1920. Enlisted November, 1941. Graduated Central High School, Tulsa, 1936. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; American Defense Medal for Icelandic Emergency; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. Served six



months in Iceland. Awarded Presidential Unit Citation, First Marine Division, Reinforced, in Solomon Islands' campaign. Died January 16, 1943, in Solomon Islands.

LAWRENCE NELSON JOHNDROW, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Enid, Garfield County. Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Johndrow, Parents, 1220 North Pine, Enid. Born August 27, 1919. Enlisted June, 1940. Member Catholic Church. Attended St. Joseph's School, Enid; graduated Enid High School, 1937; attended Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, three years. Trained Spartan School of Aeronautics, Tulsa, and Randolph Field, Texas. Received wings Kelly Field, Texas, February 7, 1941. Instructor at Stockton Field, California, and later at Roswell Field, New Mexico. Died May 29, 1942, in airplane crash during routine training flight, Roswell, New Mexico.

CLAUDE R. JONES, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Ponca City, Kay County. Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Jones, Parents, Rt. 1, Ponca City. Born November 29, 1910. Enlisted January, 1941. Served in 45th Division. Died September 11, 1943, in action, North African area.

JAMES A. JOHNSTON, Captain, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Chickasha, Grady County. Mrs. M. B. Johnston, Mother, 1103 Choctaw, Chickasha. Born December 8, 1919. Enlisted May, 1940. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; Air Medal. Served with Bomber Squadron. Died January 13, 1943, in action, in Western European area.

FRANK J. JUMPER, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Konawa, Seminole County. Mrs. Verna Jumper, Wife, 1019 West 7th St., Oklahoma City. Born June 6, 1916. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Graduated from Konawa High School, Konawa; attended Hemp Hill University, California. Served in 45th Division. Died September 13, 1943, in Italy.

ELMER DEAN KELLEY, Seaman, Second Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Kenwood, Delaware County. Mrs. Della C. Kelley, Mother, Kenwood. Born August 31, 1909. Enlisted April 8, 1942. Died January 20, 1943, in action, at Sea.

JOHN W. KELLEY, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Atwood, Hughes County. Mrs. Mary Esther Kelley, Mother, Atwood. Born February 8, 1923. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Finished education in public schools, Holdenville, Oklahoma. Served in 45th Division. Citation for bravery in action in Sicily. Died September 16, 1943, in Italy.

JOHN W. KENNEDY, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Ringwood, Major County. Mrs. J. J. Kennedy, Mother, Ringwood. Born November 7, 1915. Enlisted January 9, 1942. Decoration: Order

of the Purple Heart. Member St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Okeene. Graduated High School, Ringwood. Member Knights of Columbus Lodge. Trained at Camp Roberts, California; arrived in Australia and trained with Infantry, April to September, 1942. Among first American troops transported by air, landing at Port Moresby, and afterward in Buna Gona section, New Guinea. Died December 31, 1942, in action, Battle of Buna, New Guinea.

FORREST L. KERBY, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Stillwater, Payne County. Mrs. Ollie L. Kerby, Mother, 1112 Adams Rd., Stillwater. Born April 17, 1919. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Member Oklahoma National Guard December 1, 1934, to November 18, 1936; and from November 22, 1939, to September 15, 1940. Served in 45th Division. Died October 13, 1943, in action, in Italy.

WOODROW C. KING, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Chickasha, Grady County. Mrs. Corrine V. King, Wife, 411 South 6th St., Chickasha. Born May 27, 1916. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Also, awarded posthumously the Soldier's Medal for Heroism not involved in conflict when personnel of a landing boat was thrown into water thirty yards from shore, the boat having crashed on a rocky beach in the initial landing in Sicily. Though unable to discard his own equipment, he swam under water to rescue a soldier who had been drawn under the boat by a heavy fifteen foot surf. Exhausted and half drowned himself, he pulled the unconscious soldier safely ashore. The citation stated: "The courage displayed by Corporal King was responsible for saving the life of the soldier." Member Oklahoma National Guard. Served as Technician, Fifth Grade, in 45th Division. Died August 1, 1943, in North African area.

JAMES EDWIN LAROCHE, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Ardmore, Carter County. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. LaRoche, Parents, 513 D. St., S. E. Ardmore. Born November 16, 1919. Enlisted December 1, 1941. Graduated Ardmore High School, 1939; member wrestling team, lettered four years. Sailed for overseas duty March, 1942; served in Infantry, Hawaiian Islands. Died November 21, 1943, Makin Island, Gilbert Islands.

CONRAD ("CONNY") LAWRENCE, Aviation Metalsmith, First Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Lawton, Comanche County. Lt. (jg) R. W. Lawrence, Father, N.T.S. (Harbor Defense), Section Base, San Pedro, California. Born October 4, 1920. Enlisted March 19, 1940. Decoration: Air Medal awarded posthumously, for services honorably rendered in air missions in vicinity of Guadalcanal. Served on U.S.S. *Ranger* (July, 1940 to August, 1941); U.S.S. *Hornet* (August, 1941 to July, 1942; and U.S.S. *Saratoga* (to August, 1942). Attached to famous "Torpedo Squadron 8" and commended by Commander of the Pacific Fleet for efficient services in Battle of Midway Island. (Frequently mentioned in Ira Wol-

fert's "*Torpedo Eight*," Pulitzer Prize winning book, 1942.) His last commanding officer, Lt. H. H. Larsen, stated: "He had a splendid record. He was the type of man whom pilots like to have in their crews, as everyone knew they could depend on him." Died October 6, 1942, in airplane crash during a night attack mission, near Henderson Field, Guadalcanal.

FAY F. LEFFLER, Private, U. S. Coast Guard. Home address: Ramona, Washington County. Mrs. Lottie G. Leffler, Grandmother, Ramona. Born April 27, 1922. Enlisted February 6, 1941. Died August 13, 1943, in Japanese prison camp, Philippine Islands.

CHARLES W. LOCKE, Private, First Class, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Atoka, Atoka County. Mrs. Elizabeth Locke, Wife, 109 South Mississippi Ave., Atoka. Born February 11, 1915. Enlisted April 29, 1942. Decoration: Air Medal. Graduate Oklahoma Military Academy, Claremore, 1934; Southeastern State College, 1941. Died August 25, 1943, in line of duty with Air Transport Command, in India.

THOMAS ELMER LONG, Chief Pharmacist's Mate, U. S. Navy. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Dovie E. Buchanan, Sister, 605 South Shartel, Oklahoma City 4. Born May 2, 1905. Enlisted April 1, 1924. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Received Good Conduct Medal, October 5, 1935, and Good Conduct Pin, August 18, 1939. Died August 9, 1942, in action in line of duty and buried at sea, Southwest Pacific.

CECIL C. LYNCH, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Eufaula, McIntosh County. Mrs. Neta J. Lynch, Wife, Eufaula. Born June 2, 1919. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted July 8, 1940. Died July 14, 1943, in Sicily.

FRANK M. McCaULEY, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Barnsdall, Osage County. Mrs. Dorothy McCauley, Wife, Barnsdall. Born April 3, 1912. Enlisted February 13, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in 45th Division. Died September 11, 1943, in North African area.

NATHANIEL T. McINTOSH, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Oktaha, Muskogee County. The Reverend N. D. McIntosh, Father, Oktaha. Born June 24, 1915. Enlisted January 14, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Silver Spring Baptist Church, near Henryetta, Oklahoma. Served in 45th Division. Died September 11, 1943, in Italy.

AMOUS E. MOORE, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Atoka, Atoka County. Mrs. A. E. Moore, Wife, Harrisburg, Oregon. Born October 14, 1922. Enlisted December 6, 1938. Died September 23, 1943, in North African area.



WALLACE MARION MOSELEY, Ensign, U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Reed, Greer County. J. C. Moseley, Father, Reed. Born March 27, 1920. Enlisted May, 1941. Graduated Reed High School, 1938. Attended Cameron State School of Agriculture, Lawton, two years; Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, one year. Received commission at Corpus Christi, Texas, July, 1942. Served as Instructor. Died November 10, 1942, in airplane crash, Pensacola, Florida.

J. C. NABORS, Sergeant (Pilot), Royal Canadian Air Force. Home address: Pauls Valley, Garvin County. Mrs. Zeb Nabors, Mother, 310 East Charles Ave., Pauls Valley. Born October 22, 1918. Enlisted July 9, 1941. Sailed for overseas duty in the fall of 1942. Died June 7, 1943, in action, in Scotland. Burial at Western Necropolis, Dundee, Scotland.

GENE P. NEVILLE, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. E. B. Neville, Mother, 523 N. W. 22nd St., Oklahoma City. Born September 28, 1917. Transferred to U. S. Army Air Corps September 16, 1942. Enlisted August, 1941, Royal Air Force. Trained in England and commissioned early in 1942 as Pilot Officer (Eagle Squadron). Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Also, awarded posthumously Silver Bar by Air Ministry, London, England, for service in Royal Air Force. Died September 26, 1942, in action, in France. Burial at Brest, France.

EARNEST NICHOLS, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Shine-well, McCurtain County. Mrs. Lucy Nichols, Mother, Shinewell. Born October 31, 1920. Enlisted November 16, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died September 23, 1943, in Italy.

HOWARD H. NORTON, JR., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Howard H. Norton, Sr., Father, 2617 East 18th St., Tulsa. Born July 12, 1920. Enlisted February 4, 1942. Graduated Central High School, Tulsa. Member First Christian Church, Tulsa. Member DeMolay baseball team and First Christian Church basketball team. Bombardier. Died January 15, 1943, Boise, Idaho.

TOMMY J. NOVAK, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Bartlesville, Washington County. Mrs. Victoria Novak Chapman, Sister, 1507 West 5th St., Bartlesville. Born October 4, 1906. Enlisted January 6, 1941. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart for wounds received in Caltagirone, Italy, July 14, 1943; Oak Leaf Cluster. Well known golf professional, having served at Bartlesville Sunset Club, Pawhuska Country Club, Oklahoma City Country Club, and at Country Club, Hollywood, California. Served in Infantry, 45th Division. Died October 15, 1943, in action, in Italy. Memorial service conducted at St. John's Catholic Church, Bartlesville.

LAWRENCE M. NULTY, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Frederick, Tillman County. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Nulty, Rt. 2, Frederick. Born May 21, 1920. Enlisted January 15, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Served in 32nd Division. Expert sharpshooter. Sailed for overseas duty and arrived Australia, spring of 1942. Died December 28, 1942, in action near Buna, New Guinea.

EUGENE CLIFFORD PATTON, Apprentice Seaman (Motor Mechanics), U. S. Naval Reserve. Home address: Wynona, Osage County. T. H. Patton, Father, Wynona. Born July 5, 1922. Enlisted May 13, 1942. Died June 1, 1943, off the U. S. Atlantic Coast.

RALPH CLAY PETERS, Private, U. S. Marine Corps. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. True Wilma Peters, Wife, 44 East Plymouth, Long Beach, California. Born April 4, 1911. Enlisted July 6, 1943. Served in Motor Transportation Unit. Fatally burned in fighting 16,000 acre forest fire in Pine Valley, California. Died October 2, 1943, in San Diego, California.

VIRGIL PICKLE, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Tulsa, Tulsa County. Mrs. Violet K. Pickle, Wife, 134 North Madison, Tulsa. Born June 23, 1909. Enlisted December 5, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died August 5, 1943, in North African area.

FRANK POLASKI, JR., Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Granite, Greer County. F. P. Polaski, Father, Granite. Born February 16, 1909. Enlisted February 4, 1940. Graduated High School, Granite, 1928. Served in Field Artillery, 45th Division. First from Granite, Oklahoma, who died in the service in World War II on Italian battlefield. Died October 7, 1943, in action in Italy.

GENE RANDALL, Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Muskogee, Muskogee County. Mrs. Kathryn E. Randall, Mother, 729 South 21st St., Muskogee. Born August 18, 1919. Enlisted September 16, 1941. Tail Gunner on Flying Fortress. Died October 22, 1943, in crash of Flying Fortress on routine flight, near Ponca City, Oklahoma.

ORAN DELBERT RAGAN, Boatswain's Mate, Second Class, U. S. Coast Guard. Home address: Waurika, Jefferson County. Mr. and Mrs. Ora C. Ragan, Parents, Waurika. Born August 29, 1919. Enlisted May 6, 1941. Decoration: Navy and Marine Corps medal awarded posthumously "for heroic conduct as coxswain of a tank lighter while attached to a United States transport during the assault on the occupation of French Morocco from November 8 to 11, 1942." The Citation further stated: "On the night of November 9-10, when mountainous waves pounded the beach near Mehdia, keeping all other boats at their moorings, Ragan, at great risk of his life, dauntlessly put out from shore with the senior medical officer and

twelve wounded comrades. With expert seamanship and grim determination he brought his lighter through the dangerous surf and finally transferred the injured to safety." Died May 28, 1943, at Banika, Russell Islands. -

WILLIAM SHERWOOD RICHARDSON, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Okeene, Blaine County. W. A. Richardson, Father, 1705 West Cherokee, Enid. Born December 12, 1921. Enlisted December 12, 1941. Graduated High School, Geary, Oklahoma; and Oklahoma Military Academy, Junior College, Claremore. Participated in athletics, winning second place in High School wrestling in State, 1938. Received commission and wings at Luke Field, Phoenix, Arizona, July 26, 1942. Died September 12, 1942, in airplane crash in line of duty, Tallahassee, Florida.

ALVIN ROBBINS, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Shawnee, Pottawatomie County. Mrs. Maude Robbins, Mother, 233 South Penn, Shawnee. Born February 15, 1913. Enlisted 1942. Died August 8, 1943, in North African area.

GARVICE L. ROBISON, Captain, U. S. Army. Home address: Okmulgee, Okmulgee County. Mrs. Sylvia Lee Robison, Wife, 4609 Market St., San Diego, California. Born December 1, 1911. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Member Oklahoma National Guard, enlisted in July, 1929. Served in 45th Division. Died July 11, 1943, in Sicily.

DAN ROEBUCK, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Talihina, Le Flore County. Mrs. Nancy Roebuck, Mother, Talihina. Born December 13, 1913. Enlisted November 13, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Of Choctaw Indian descent. Member Goodland Presbyterian Church, Goodland. Graduated High School, Talihina, 1934. Clerk Indian Hospital, Talihina. Served in 45th Division. Died July 12, 1943, in action, invasion of Sicily.

FRANK RUCKER, Private, First Class, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Henry L. Rucker, Father, 3115 South Santa Fe, Oklahoma City. Born March 24, 1913. Enlisted October 26, 1942. Awarded Good Conduct Medal. Died September 26, 1943 in automobile accident, Morris Field, North Carolina.

MILTON I. RUSSELL, Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Wynnewood, Garvin County. Mrs. Ina M. Harrison, Mother, Wynnewood. Born October 14, 1918. Enlisted January 28, 1941. Decorations: Order of the Purple Heart; Distinguished Service Cross. The Citation stated that Sgt. Russell leading his squad gave orders to flank enemy and cut off retreat; during this movement, he was wounded in right arm but instead of seeking medical aid, he crossed open area exposed to enemy fire, to rescue wounded assistant squad



leader and sent him to the rear. During this action in enemy cross-fire, Sgt. Russell was mortally wounded but succeeded in sending back information that aided in knocking out the enemy machine guns. Died July 28, 1943, in action, North African area.

GILBERT D. SANTOS, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Mary Rafaela Santos, Mother, 117 S. W. Frisco St., Oklahoma City. Born May 30, 1923. Enlisted January 8, 1943. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died October 9, 1943, South Pacific area.

RAY SCOTT, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Wetumka, Hughes County. Mr. E. Pat Scott, Father, Wetumka. Born January 3, 1920. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Died October 12, 1942, in airplane crash, Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas.

LOYD A. SHEPARD, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Okemah, Okfuskee County. Mrs. Etta Shepard, Mother, Rt. 1, Okemah. Born May 22, 1917. Enlisted February 4, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Awarded medal for marksmanship. Sailed for overseas duty October, 1942. Died July 30, 1943, in action, South Pacific area.

JOHN THOMAS SPANGLER, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Pauls Valley, Garvin County. Mrs. T. R. Spangler, Mother, 615 West 34th St., Oklahoma City. Born March 20, 1912. Enlisted January 28, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in 45th Division. Died July 12, 1943, in action, North African area.

LAWRENCE C. SPARKMAN, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Tecumseh, Pottawatomie County. Mrs. Hester Sparkman, Mother, Tecumseh. Born July 22, 1919. Enlisted January 30, 1941. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Served in Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Division. Died September 14, 1943, in action, North African area.

JOHN L. STRIPLIN, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Geronimo, Comanche County. Mrs. Josie Striplin, Mother, Willowbrook, California. Born February 5, 1910. Enlisted March 28, 1941. Taken prisoner at fall of Corregidor May 7, 1942. Died July 9, 1943, in Japanese prison camp, Philippine Islands.

EARL J. THOMPSON, Corporal, U. S. Army. Home address: Bristow, Creek County. Mrs. Nellie A. Thompson, Mother, Bristow. Born May 25, 1920. Enlisted January 6, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Field Artillery Battalion. Died August 4, 1943, in Sicily.

TOM THOMPSON, Machinist's Mate, Second Class, U. S. Navy. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Lillia Mae

Thompson, Wife, 2522 S.W. 32nd St., Oklahoma City. Born October 8, 1898. Enlisted March 22, 1942. Served in 24th Construction Battalion (Seabees). Died July 2, 1943, in action, South Pacific.

ELBERT TUCK, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Dustin, Hughes County. Mrs. Daisy Tuck, Mother, Dustin. Born May 25, 1923. Enlisted January, 1943. Engineer Corps. Died November 7, 1943, Braunton, Devon, England.

THOMAS E. TURNER, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Lucy Lewis, Grandmother, 829 N. W. 5th St., Oklahoma City. Born April 17, 1923. Enlisted August, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Boy Scouts, Troop 56, Oklahoma City. Served with Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 45th Division. Died September 20, 1943, in action, North African area.

CECIL VEAZEY, Private, U. S. Army. Home address: Sentinel, Washita, County. Mrs. Katie Veazey, Mother, Sentinel. Born January 4, 1915. Enlisted October 27, 1939. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Died August 7, 1943, North African area.

HOMER OLIVER WAITS, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Tahlequah, Cherokee County. Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Waits, Tahlequah. Born February 28, 1916. Enlisted September, 1940. Member Baptist Church, Tahlequah. Attended Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, one year; Northeastern State College, Tahlequah, student at time of enlistment. Member Phi Sigma Epsilon Fraternity; Delta Psi Omega, National Honorary Dramatic Fraternity; and elected president League of Young Democrats, 1939, Northeastern State College. Trained at Spartan School of Aeronautics, Tulsa, and Randolph Field, Texas. Commissioned and received wings Brooks Field, San Antonio, Texas, April 25, 1941. Sailed for overseas duty April, 1942. Died May 13, 1942, in airplane accident, Middle East Africa.

HARRY E. WALLACE, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Britton, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Edith Meade, Mother, 407 S. Western Ave., Britton. Born June 15, 1921. Enlisted September, 1940. Transferred from 45th Division to the Air Corps, March, 1942. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously. Served as First Pilot of B-26 bomber. Died September 25, 1943, North African area.

OWEN KIRBY WARNER, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Aline, Alfalfa County. Clovis E. Warner, Father, Rt. 1, Aline. Born November 22, 1917. Enlisted June, 1941. Member Church of Christ, Enid. Graduated High School, Enid, 1936; attended Northwestern State College, Alva; Phillips University, Enid; Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater. Member Sir Galahad Chapter, DeMolay, Enid. Advanced training at Luke Field, Phoe-

nix, Arizona, receiving commission (2nd Lt.) and wings January 9, 1942. Additional training in Multi-Motored Transition, Albuquerque Air Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, graduating with the highest honor of his class. Stationed March, 1942, Hamilton Field, California; did outstanding work as Pilot of South Pacific Routes as a Pioneer, and cited with his squadron for outstanding ferrying work before Battle of Midway. Promoted to First Lieutenant April 30, 1943. For outstanding work in Ferrying Command awarded campaign ribbons for Asiatic-Pacific and American Theatres of operation. Died September 16, 1943, of injuries received in air-craft crash, Davis-Munthen Field, Tucson, Arizona.

VERNON RAY WATSON, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Purcell, McClain County. Mrs. Lillie Watson, Mother, Rt. 1, Purcell. Born July 27, 1917. Enlisted January 19, 1940. Served in Signal Battalion, Iceland. Remarks: "He was a good and faithful Christian, loved and highly respected by his many friends." Died June 27, 1942, Tilton General Hospital, Fort Dix, New Jersey.

WILLIAM B. WIER, Master Sergeant, U. S. Army. Home address: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County. Mrs. Sybil Gladys Wier, Mother, 1615 N. W. 29th St., Oklahoma City. Born November 19, 1914. Enlisted September 16, 1940. Decoration: Order of the Purple Heart. Member Oklahoma National Guard May 1 to October 1, 1935; and September 12 to 16, 1940. Died September 23, 1943, in action, North African area.

WINFRED W. WYATT, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps. Home address: Milfay, Creek County. Mrs. Lillie Watson, Grandmother, Milfay. Born February 18, 1917. Enlisted June 8, 1942. Graduated High School, Milfay; attended North Texas A. & M. College, Arlington, Texas, two years. Received commission and wings Army Air Base, Roswell, New Mexico, January 2, 1943. Died July 15, 1943, in airplane crash in take-off for first combat mission, Pendleton Field, Oregon.

LOU RAYMOND YOUNG, Private, First Class, U. S. Army. Home address: Guthrie, Logan County. L. V. Young, Father, 510 W. Harrison Ave., Guthrie. Born February 18, 1924. Enlisted September, 1940. Served in Medical Detachment. Stationed Clark Air Field, Philippine Islands. Taken prisoner at Bataan (no word from him after November, 1941). Died June 16, 1943, in Japanese prison camp, Philippine Islands.



## SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, BARONET

*By the Reverend W. N. P. Dailey, D.D.<sup>1</sup>*

Sir William Johnson, Baronet, was one of the prominent leaders in the Colonial Period of the mid-eighteenth century.<sup>2</sup> He was born in 1715, in the county of Meath, Ireland, son of Christopher and Anne Warren Johnson, the latter a daughter of Commodore Warren, and a sister of Admiral Sir Peter Warren. Of Johnson's youth we know very little. His uncle, Peter Warren, wrote of him in his diary in 1726, "He is a Spritely Boy, well grown, of good parts, Keen Wit, but Most Onruly and Streperous. I see in him the Makings of a Strong Man. Shall keep my Wether Eye on this lad."

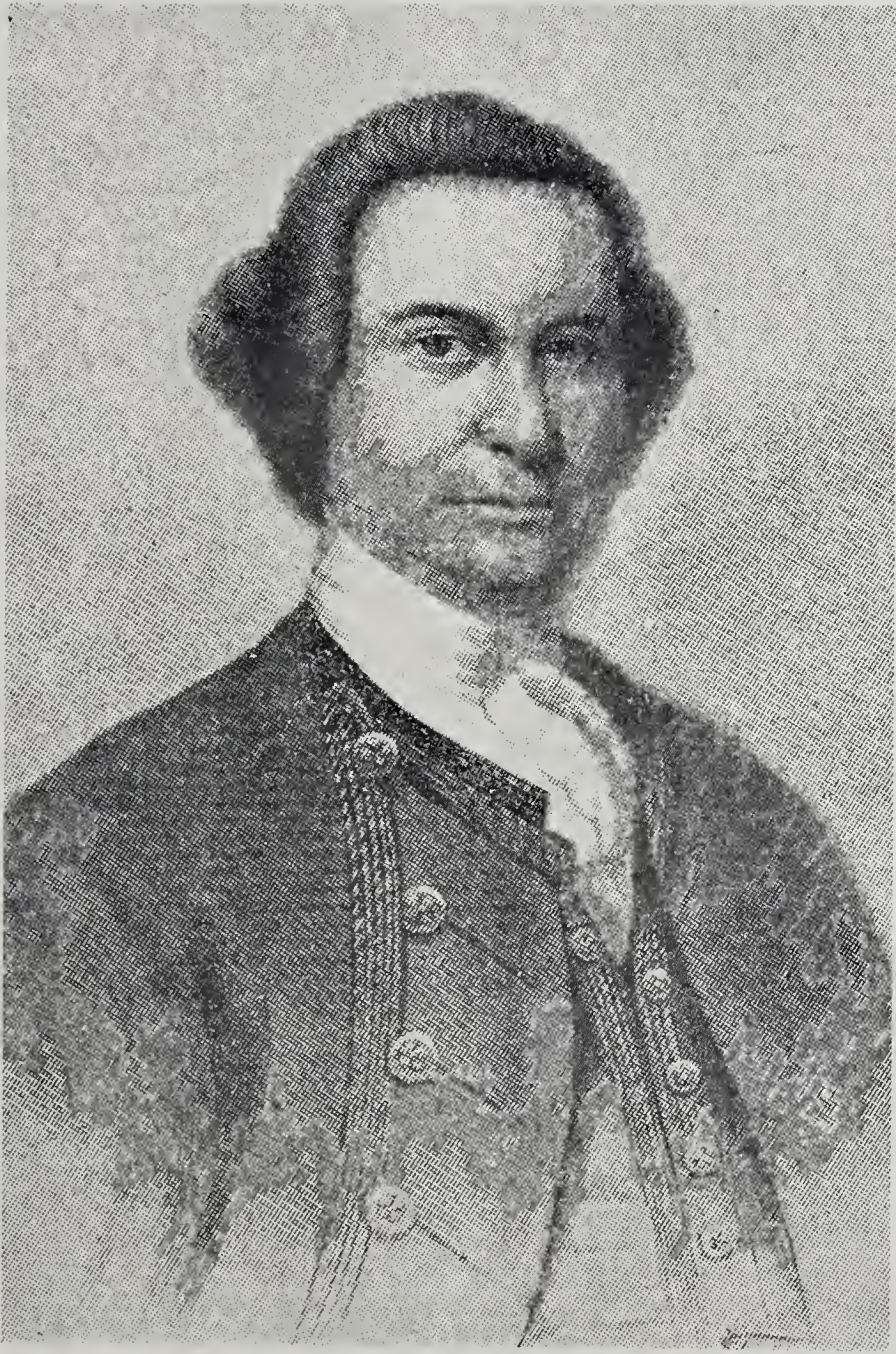
The Johnson family selected army or navy service for the lad, but William chose the law and entered the Academy at Newry, from which he was expelled for assaulting the schoolmaster. In 1737, on the eve of his becoming a barrister, his uncle, Peter Warren, who had acquired a large grant of land in New York Province, "Situate

<sup>1</sup> This article presents a subject outside the field of southwestern history, yet its publication in *The Chronicles* is a contribution to Oklahoma history since Sir William Johnson was the first superintendent of American Indian Affairs, of note, serving by appointment under the British government. Furthermore, the policy established by the British in dealing with the American Indians afterward was observed and closely followed by the United States through its Office of Indian Affairs. During his life, Sir William Johnson was associated with the Seneca Indians. Some bands of the Seneca tribe settled in Oklahoma during the period of Indian removal in the 1830's and their descendants live in the state to-day. The Cherokee Treaty of 1833 (Act of Congress, Feb. 14, 1833, 7 Stat. L. 411, Proclamation Mar. 22, 1833, article 2) provided a tract of 60,000 acres to these Seneca bands, in what is now Northeastern Oklahoma. The author of this article, the Rev. Dr. W. N. P. Dailey, is an experienced writer, a contributor to outstanding historical publications, and historian for the Dutch Reformed Church in New York.—M.H.W.

<sup>2</sup> The following estimate of William Johnson was made by Francis Parkman: "Nature had well fitted him for the position in which his propitious stars had cast his lot. His person was tall, erect, and strong; his features grave and manly. His direct and upright dealings, his courage, eloquence, and address, were sure passports to favor in Indian eyes. He had a singular facility of adaptation. In the camp, or at the council-board, in spite of his defective education, he bore himself as became his station; but at home he was seen drinking flip and smoking tobacco with the Dutch boors, his neighbors, and talking of improvements or the price of beaver-skins; while in the Indian villages he would feast on dog's flesh, dance with the warriors, and harangue his attentive auditors with all the dignity of an Iroquois sachem. His temper was genial; he encouraged rustic sports, and was respected and beloved alike by whites and Indians.

"His good qualities, however, were alloyed with serious defects. His mind was as coarse as it was vigorous; he was vain of his rank and influence, and being quite free from any scruple of delicacy, he lost no opportunity of proclaiming them. His nature was eager and ambitious; and in pushing his own way, he was never distinguished by an anxious solicitude for the rights of others."—Francis Parkman, *The Conspiracy of Pontiac and the Indian War after the Conquest of Canada*. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1891), Vol. I, pp. 92-3.





SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, BARONET





in the Valley of Mohock," made him overseer of these lands. He arrived in New York in December of 1737 and spent the winter there with his aunt, Mrs. Peter Warren at One Broadway.<sup>3</sup> To evaluate the career of William Johnson, Baronet, and to form a just estimate of his life and influence in the colonies while in the service of the British, is not an easy task even though he left so many papers showing his varied activities.<sup>4</sup> Nearly all writers of the past who have biographed him have placed him in the sphere of foremost importance in colonial history; the founder and patron of all movements, industrial, educational, even religious, and the man above all others of the whites whom the Indians trusted. Jephtha Simms, who wrote in the early forties, and Francis Parkman, of ten years later date, and William Joel Stone, and Jared Sparks, President of Harvard, and now Kenneth Roberts, all reveal the human side of Johnson, but tradition, romance, fiction still hold him up as a man of great renown.

William Johnson's dream was that of a great feudal empire, patterned after the vast estates in the mother country, in the territory between Western New York Province and Canada. He had acquired some 200,000 acres, but his land dream visioned a tract of 14,000 square miles where the Johnson family and their descendants were forever to rule supreme.<sup>5</sup> While superintending his Uncle Peter Warren's lands, he engaged one Catherine Weisenberg as his housekeeper, who became the mother of Sir John Johnson, and his sisters, Nancy Anne and Mary.<sup>6</sup> William Johnson, Commissioner of Indian Affairs after 1743, followed the Iroquois custom of allowing to distinguished visitors the choice of their Indian maidens while in camp. The French colonists, urged on by their king, adopted the same practice. It is to be noted that the Dutch and German settlers, with equal opportunity, abhorred the custom. In his long will Johnson refers to Molly Brant, who bore him nine children, as his "housekeeper." She and all her children, save perhaps Peter, went back,

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<sup>3</sup> This house was made famous as the headquarters of Generals Howe, Clinton, and Carleton. It was from this place that Major Andre set out to aid Arnold who sought to deliver West Point to the British.

<sup>4</sup> New York State has published to date eight volumes of "Johnson Papers" and more are coming, evidencing his busy administration for the crown.

<sup>5</sup> W. Pierrepoint White, *Johnson's Dream of Empire* (1930).

<sup>6</sup> Simms, writing in 1845, knew people who knew Johnson, and he says that Catherine was a "High Dutch girl" whose passage from Europe was paid by Johnson. Paying the passage of an immigrant girl and then marrying her was a custom observed in several of the early American colonies. Others have made Catherine the daughter of Reverend Jacob Weisenberg, a Lutheran missionary among the Indians in the Mohawk Valley, but no trace of Weisenberg is discoverable. Tradition says that Johnson married her on her death bed, she having borne him three children,—John (b. 1742), Mary (b. 1744) and Nancy Anne (b. 1740). The Fort Hunter Indian Mission Baptismal records (extant) show that these children were baptised as Weisenbergs, not Johnsons, though later, they took that name. For notes on the life of the eldest son, John Johnson, Baronet, see *Addenda*.

after Johnson's decease, to the Indian life, and aided Brant and Butler and Sir John Johnson in their raids in the Mohawk Valley.

The correspondence of William Johnson clearly shows that, at least during the King George War (1743-1748), he vigorously supported England's policy of scalping the Canadian French and the Algonquin and other Red Men who were regarded as enemies of the Crown. He wrote complaining that the money and gifts promised for the scalps that were being brought to Fort Johnson were not forthcoming, and especially commended the brutal Walter Butler for his success in this practice.<sup>7</sup> The walls of Fort Johnson afforded a gruesome sight, plastered with the scalps taken of the men, women and children for which the usual price was around eight dollars each. In contrast it is said that the only scalp lifted during the Revolution by the patriots was that of Walter Butler, when he lost his life in the Battle of Johnstown, and this was done by an Indian in revenge for Cherry Valley. Johnson, native European, colonist and baronet, was adopted by the Mohawks and given the name of "Warraghiyagee," meaning "Administrator."

Johnson's first residence was on the south side of the Mohawk, opposite what is now Amsterdam, New York. Here he lived for five years. Unbeknown to the Admiral, Johnson bought in 1740 a large tract of land on the north side of the Mohawk where he built a house that he called, "Mount Johnson," and a grist mill. Later, in 1749, he erected a square stone house, still standing, now the Montgomery County Historical Society Headquarters. He brought sixty Scotch-Irish families from Ireland to work his lands. He rose rapidly to power—an Indian Commissioner in 1743, when Col. Peter Schuyler resigned, a Colonel in a West Albany New York Regiment in 1744, and in 1745 the King's Magistrate. In 1748, Governor Clinton made him Colonel-in-Chief of the Albany County Militia though he knew absolutely nothing of military tactics. While all this was taking place, Johnson was adding to his real estate which in 1756 received the sanction of his king and was called "The Royal Grant." In 1745 Catherine Weisenberg died and Johnson then (1745) engaged Caroline, daughter of Hendrick, a Mohawk sachem, as his housekeeper. She bore him three children, William, Caroline, and Charlotte.

On July 20, 1749, a great Indian Conference was held at Albany, New York. It was attended by seven of the Colonial Governors, with their uniformed staffs and families, also the Indian chiefs from the various tribes with their families, all attired in gorgeous

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<sup>7</sup> It has been said that scalping was unknown among the American Indians until the arrival of the European. But Cartier saw five scalps at Quebec in 1535, and Landonniere saw them among the Florida Indians in 1564. Champlain says that the Algonquins used to carry away the heads as war trophies.

raiment. Much has been written of this conference by Johnson and others, but, aside from the presentation of gifts to the Indians, nothing of any practical use was accomplished. In 1751 the Provincial Assembly refused Johnson funds for his Indian work and this made him resign the post as Commissioner but in 1755 General Braddock, Commander of the British forces in America, reappointed him superintendent of Indian Affairs and gave him the rank of Major General. Admiral Warren died in 1752 willing what lands were left of his in the valley to Johnson. In the following year the French began to be troublesome again, winning over the Senecas to their side and taking all the Ohio tracts. On July 5, 1753, Johnson was directed to confer with the Senecas, the Onondagas, and the Cayugas. In the fall he met with them at Onondaga, where he was regally entertained, but found no cause of trouble.

Caroline Hendrick, Johnson's housekeeper, died in 1754, and, in her place, Johnson installed her niece, Molly Brant. She was a sister of Joseph Brant, whom Jared Sparks, noted historian of the Revolution, and other annalists, maintain was the natural son of Molly's mother by Johnson.<sup>8</sup> Molly Brant lived with Sir William till his death in 1774, and bore him nine children: Peter Warren, George, Elisabeth, Magdalene, Margaret, Mary, Susanne, Anne, and a girl who died an infant.

It seems most singular that while there are several large tomes of Johnson's official and personal papers extant, only scant vestiges of the records of his many years of tenure of the office of Indian Commissioner exist. It is said that the Board of Indian Commissioners was originally set up in 1676, to be composed of five members, one of whom must be a minister.<sup>9</sup>

Major General Sir Edward Braddock called a Council of Colonial Governors at Alexandria, Virginia, to map out a campaign against the French. Johnson and Ben Franklin attended. The plan adopted was for Braddock to expel the French from Nova Scotia, and Johnson to lead a force to reduce Crown Point. He was promised a force of 3,500 from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut and New York, while he was to gather a force of a thousand Iroquois (600 came). Johnson's force was to gather at Albany, New York, about August 1, 1755. Braddock was defeated on July 9 at

<sup>8</sup> Jared Sparks, LL. D., was president of Harvard University. Parkman dedicated his "Conspiracy of Pontiac" (*op. cit.*) to him, and refers to Sparks' distinguished service to the cause of American history.

<sup>9</sup> In General Johnson's time, the minutes of the Board were kept by Peter Wraxall, of Albany, his aide-de-camp and his "Boswell." No matter what the situation, Wraxall favored his commander and was severely critical of those who opposed. A four volume abridgement existed which was lost in the Albany (New York) fire of 1911. Sketches of the records are said to be in the Canadian archives. A transcribed partial copy is in the Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, New York. Harvard University published the Wraxall Abridgement (1678-1751) in 1915.



Fort Duquesne. On August 6, Johnson sent Colonel Lyman to erect a defense at Fort Edward on the Hudson, and on July 26 the commander himself, with a force of 3,400, followed.

Meanwhile, de Vaudreuil, Governor of Canada, to whom had been sent Braddock's papers revealing the campaign, ordered Baron de Dieskau to attack the English under Johnson. Through an error the French took the road leading to Lake George instead of to Fort Edward, and, suddenly, found that the British army was but four miles away and ready to attack. This is known as the Battle of Lake George.<sup>10</sup> Although but partially successful, the failing of its objective, it was the only success of the campaign. General Johnson has been severely criticised for his part in this conflict. In extenuation of the results of the contest it must be recalled that William Johnson knew nothing of military strategy, and his appointment as leader of the affray was due, not to any military ability possessed but to his standing with the British regime and his supposed influence with the American Indians. On the other hand, New England had furnished the main body of the army and to find their men under the command and obstinate "tyranny" of a New York General was a sort of "Promethean vulture to New England vitals." There was a bitter feud between Governor Shirley and General Johnson, and Johnson's own staff was divided by jealousies and disputes. He insisted on recognition of his "new dignity and station," while his secretary, Wraxall, continually magnified in many ways the commander's importance in writing to the Lords of Trade and the Colonial Governors, never forgetting to belittle General Shirley's actions.

Both the English and French seemed to know each other's position prior to the battle. On September 5, Johnson sent Colonel Williams with a force of one thousand, with four hundred of the Indians under King Hendrik, to attack the French. Within an hour Williams' force was ambushed, the Indians deserted, both Colonel Williams and Hendrik slain, the remnant retreating to the camp. So sure of easy success, Dieskau had left two-thirds of his force at Fort Ticonderoga. Both Johnson and Dieskau were wounded in the initial skirmish, and neither took any part in the battle. General Lyman assumed command of the British force, and to him belongs the credit of defeating the French. The Indians deserted the battle-

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<sup>10</sup> On the defeat and death of Braddock in the summer of 1755, General Shirley became the Commander-in-chief. He ordered Johnson to march to Crown Point. Four months had now been wasted at Albany in acrimonious jealousies between Johnson and the New England forces. It was not until August 9, 1755, that the English army began to move, altho two divisions under General Lyman and Colonel Ephraim Williams had gone to Fort Edward. These experienced military leaders objected to Johnson's plan of battle, but he overrode all protests, even of King Hendrik, the Mohawk chief, which caused confusion of orders and almost utter lack of discipline. Colonel Williams was killed in the Battle of Lake George. His estate was used to found Williams College.

field and contented themselves with robbing and scalping the dead on both sides. Baron Lonquiel and his French force were almost annihilated, and their bodies thrown in a nearby water which to this day is called "Bloody Pond." General Lyman urged Johnson to let him pursue the French remnant and try to take Fort Ticonderoga, but Johnson refused. The desertion of his Indians, the death of Hendrik, at odds with Lyman and his field officers, facing discontent and drunkenness in the camp, wrangling with everyone under him—perhaps realizing his errors of strategy, Johnson let the chance of a great victory slip away, and sent Wraxall back to Albany in October to report to the Colonial Governors and the Lords of Trade on the insubordination of the army; bitterly condemning it in true Tory fashion as the "democratic fabric" of his force. At a final council, held November 24, 1755, he agreed to abandon the camp and return to Albany.

Johnson's secretary, writing a report of the battle for the Commander to the King and the Colonial Governors, on December 2, 1755, caustically criticised the political and selfish motives of the leaders of the force under Johnson, praised the latter and himself as paragons of military ability and of outstanding devotion to the royal cause. In none of the letters that Johnson wrote to the Governors, nor in his report to the London Board, did he mention the name of General Phineas Lyman who commanded the force in the battle. The King made Johnson a Baronet (November 27, 1756) and added a gift of five thousand pounds. On his return to Albany, Johnson resigned his commission. Secretary Fox of the London Board of Trade sent him a royal commission as Superintendent of the Six Nations at a salary of six hundred pounds, and as much more for the expense of his office.

England formally declared war against France in 1756. The nation that could take and hold the great war path between Albany and Montreal through the Hudson Valley was the people who would decide the fate of the colonies and the rule of the American continent. In 1757, General Montcalm took Fort William Henry on Lake George from the English. Sir William Johnson led a force of two thousand Provincials and six hundred Red Men against Montcalm's six thousand, whose Canadian Indians slew and scalped the disarmed garrison after they had surrendered. In 1757, the "praying" Indians from the north swooped down upon the Mohawk and Schoharie valleys, pillaging and burning the settlers' homes. Johnson sought to attack these marauders with a force of three hundred militia and half as many Indians, but the French and their allies usually got away.

In 1758, Abercrombie with a force of fourteen thousand, the greatest British army known to that date, undertook to wrest Fort Ticonderoga from the French. Colonel John Johnson and his In-



dians were a part of this army but what part they took in it we do not know. Montcalm had 3,600 regulars at Fort Ticonderoga. Abercrombie lost that number before he began his ignominious retreat. Probably the death of Lord Howe on July 6 had much to do with the defeat of the British. However, ere the year closed, Amherst had captured Louisburg and Forbes had taken Duquesne. In December 1758, Amherst planned to reduce Ticonderoga and Niagara, and to attack Quebec from the sea. Sir William Johnson was second in command in the attack on Fort Niagara, but became commander when General Prideaux was accidentally killed on July 19. The French, after a skirmish, surrendered. Johnson's report to Amherst gave full credit to General Prideaux for the success of the expedition, a contrast with his treatment of General Lyman who won the Battle of Lake George for his Commander. With the reduction of the forts at Niagara and Crown Point, and the fall of Quebec, and, later, Montreal, Sir William Johnson's military career came to an end. On September 12, he and his Indian allies (1,350) returned to Oswego where his force was disbanded, and he went on to his home at Fort Johnson, to resume his real estate ventures and the erection of his dream empire.

In the spring of 1761, Sir William Johnson called for a grand council of the Indians at Detroit, which was held in August. In the party was his son, John, and a nephew, Guy Johnson, who had married Sir William's daughter, Mary.<sup>11</sup> At Oswego, he gave silver medals to certain Indians who were with him in the Montreal expedition, reserving a gold one for himself at Amherst's behest. At Onondaga he was present at a memorial service held for the Red Men who had fallen at Niagara. The Detroit Council lasted three weeks. The Indians bitterly complained of their treatment in the taking of their lands and the results of their fur trade, but Johnson persuaded them to remain loyal to England.

East of Fort Johnson, Sir William built a two story stone house for his daughter, Mary, who had married Colonel Guy Johnson, and, midway between this and Fort Johnson, another for his daughter, Nancy, who had married Colonel Daniel Claus.<sup>12</sup> A mile square tract of land was attached to each house. In 1763, Sir William left his house on the Mohawk to his son, John, and removed to Johnstown, New York, a few miles in the interior, and built his third residence, a spacious house with stone wings on either side. The main frame structure is still standing, and is called "Johnson Hall." He erected other houses on his vast estate, one at what was called

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<sup>11</sup> Guy Johnson died in London, March 5, 1788. Mary, his wife, died July 11, 1775, at Oswego.

<sup>12</sup> Colonel Daniel Claus, deputy Indian superintendent, died in November, 1787. Mrs. Claus died in Canada in 1798. A daughter, Mary, married Lord Clyde (Sir Colin Campbell) whose Highlanders raised the siege of Lucknow, India.



"The Fish House," where the Misses Wormuth were housekeepers, and another at Broadalbin, New York.

It was in this summer of 1763 that Johnson first became aware of the growing conspiracy of Pontiac, although his scouts were roaming the country but made no report of it to him. This wily chief of the Ottawas, and the western tribes, who were abetted by the French, had completely outwitted him. The Iroquois, inimical to the English, carried their conquests and depredations from Canada to the Carolinas, and from the western prairies to the forests of Maine. The origin of the Hodanosaunee, as these Indians called themselves, is not known. Some writers say that they arose out of the North, others out of the West, and still others that it was out of the soil of New York that they came. A century before the Dutch came to Manhattan (1609), the Iroquois were well established along the banks of the Mohawk and in the Onondaga hills, the Oneida and Cayuga forests, and on the shores of Seneca Lake and in the Genesee country.

In September of 1760, Sir Jeffrey Amherst ordered Major Robert Rogers to proceed to take the garrison at Detroit and other western posts which the French had surrendered to the English. On November 7, Major Rogers met Pontiac, the calumet was smoked and all seemed peaceful. On November 29, 1760, Detroit was turned over to the British.<sup>13</sup> However, among the Indians there was a deep seated hatred against the English. Sir William Johnson complained that the Government treated the Indians niggardly, and even the agents kept most of the material tokens given, or traded them to the Indians for great gain.<sup>14</sup> The fur traders were base fellows for the most part who robbed and cursed the Indians. The lands of the Delawares were invaded by the whites; settlers from Connecticut entered the Wyoming country; the lands of the Mohawks were patented without their consent but with the government approval. George Croghan, a deputy under Johnson, pleaded with General Amherst to change his policy toward the American Indians, but Amherst remained arrogantly indifferent. The Indians began to prepare for revenge, for relief from the cruel wrongs suffered. But Pontiac, falsely persuaded by the French, decided against the English in the hope that the French could recover Canada as well as drive the British out of the province of New York and the great western lands.

<sup>13</sup> Up to the time of the conference between Major Rogers and Pontiac, the latter had been a firm ally of the French. Shrewd and ambitious, with canny intuition, he saw the waning of the French power and hoped to advance himself and his tribe by going over to the English. Of the incipency of Pontiac's conspiracy much is gleaned from Major Rogers' *Journals* and his *Concise Account of North America* (London: 1765). The poetic tragedy, "Pontiac," printed in London in 1766, may have been written by Major Rogers. There is a copy in the British Museum. It reveals Chekitan, son of Pontiac, to be in love with Monelia, daughter of King Hendrik, the Mohawk Chief. Monelia is slain by Philip, the brother of Chekitan, who, in turn, kills Philip.

<sup>14</sup> Letter to Governor Colden, of New York, dated December 24, 1763.

All the tribes of the Algonquin linguistic family gathered to Pontiac and with them were the Wyandots and the Senecas, the rest remaining aloof under Johnson's influence. Amherst was for annihilating the Senecas but Johnson persuaded him that it was not the tribe but individuals in it who were rebellious. Amherst hung two of the offenders at Ononddaga Castle, and imprisoned seventeen others in Manhattan where they were kept till the time of Pontiac's surrender in 1766. The initial plan of Pontiac was to seize Detroit with its garrison of a hundred and twenty, but Major Gladwyn discovered the plot in time to avert it.<sup>15</sup> Pontiac and his six hundred warriors began to attack the fort in May and ceased not till the end of 1763 when the French withdrew their support.

On September 7, 1763, Sir William Johnson called a conference at Fort Johnson for the purpose of cementing the alliance of the Indians with the English. Chiefs and warriors of all the tribes, save the Senecas, together with the deputies of the tribes on the St. Lawrence and from Canada, came together. In an adroit mixture of threats, promises, and much argument, Sir William eased the Indian discontent, and banished from their minds any thought of a revengeful war against the British, as that in which Pontiac was then engaged. But he urged on them to fight the western tribes who were hostile to the Crown. However, despite the apparent conversion of the Indians, the Province of New York suffered greatly from depredations in Ulster, Albany and Orange counties, and the western settlements in the Mohawk valley. Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania were fertile fields for incursions by the Indians. The massacre of settlers in the valley of the Wyoming that occurred October 15, 1763, was unusually atrocious.<sup>16</sup> It was a year of disaster for the English colonies. Johnson wrote the London Board of Trade in the spring of 1764, on behalf of the Indians, citing their wrongs and suggesting a plan of reconciliation. This was adopted but illy executed. General Amherst was prejudiced against the Indians, and against anyone who was not English, nobleman or soldier. In mod-

<sup>15</sup> Major Gladwyn's letter to Amherst, dated May 14, 1763, quoted in *Conspiracy of Pontiac*, op. cit., pp. 227-8. Parkman extolled the prowess of Pontiac but expresses regret that his life was stained with cowardice and wanton treachery. In his nature, Pontiac revealed the faults and virtues of the Indian race. The "Johnson Papers," op. cit., have a great deal on this Pontiac "Conspiracy."

<sup>16</sup> In 1762, some settlers from Connecticut had taken possession of lands in the valley of the Wyoming, an east branch of the Susquehanna River. This had been done in defiance of the Pennsylvania colonial government and had angered the Indians of the region. A party of Pennsylvania volunteers set out to remove the settlers, arriving in the valley of the Wyoming two days after the Indians had burned the settlement and killed twenty inhabitants most of whom had suffered terrible torture (October 15, 1763). This event should not be confused with the Battle of Wyoming, best known in the history of the region as the "Wyoming Massacre," which took place during the American Revolution between the Colonial troops and the Tories with their Indian allies on July 3 and 4, 1778. Some writers have stated that Joseph Brant took part in the later "Wyoming Massacre," though most historians now hold that he was not present and had no part in it.—M.H.W.

ern time we have his counterpart in General Custer whose only good Indian was a dead one. But this was long before the Battle of the Little Big Horn (1876).

General Amherst was made Governor of Virginia in 1764, and in July of that year Johnson called the "western confederacy" to meet in council at Niagara. At first the Senecas refused to attend, but were persuaded to do so when told that their refusal would mean the destruction of all their settlements by the English forces. Treaties were made at this council between the various tribes, hitherto under Pontiac, and the English.<sup>17</sup>

After the winter of 1765-1766, the Indians began to enjoy a season of peace; the fur trade was resumed, their poverty and distress were abated. In the spring of 1766, Pontiac started to make a promised visit to Sir William at Oswego. Little did he dream that his rule over the Indians of the West would soon be over forever. The batteries of Oswego saluted as he approached and Sir William and the Iroquois chiefs gave him a royal welcome. Belts of wampum were extended, "one to wipe away the tears of sorrow from their eyes, another to cover the bones of their relatives, a third to open their ears that they might hear, and one more to clear their throats that they might speak with ease."<sup>18</sup> Pontiac's pipe of peace was passed and smoked. On July 24, 1766, Sir William made his address, and was followed the next day by Pontiac.<sup>19</sup>

In 1768, another council of the Indians was held at Fort Stanwix (Rome, New York) to agree upon the boundaries of the lands of the New York Province and the Iroquois lands. Later the Iroquois sold most of their lands to the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Kentucky.

In 1769, Sir William's patents of land obtained in various ways from the Indians were 200,000 acres, all of which had royal sanction. This vast estate was called, The Royal Grant. Except for these real estate deals, and his erection of buildings at Johnstown,<sup>20</sup> New York, his later life was a quiet one—save that there was a constant throng of the Indians from all the tribes visiting him, which meant a great deal of entertainment.

The troubles between the colonists and the Indians, and between the colonists and the mother country, seriously affected Sir William.

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<sup>17</sup> In 1765, Johnson reported to the London Board of Trade, the pamphlet being entitled, "Review of the Past and Present of the Indian Trade and Relations."

<sup>18</sup> Parkman, *op. cit.*, p. 301.

<sup>19</sup> The Minutes of this Council are in the office of The Secretary of State, in Albany, New York. Pontiac died in April, 1767, at the hands of a hired assassin.

<sup>20</sup> Among the buildings erected were a court house and jail, still standing, paid for by the provincial assembly.—Letter of Guy Johnson to Sir William Johnson, dated February 10, 1773.



With prophetic vision he saw the clouds of conflict gathering. The Fort Johnson Indian conference of 1774 was indicative of what was surely to happen once the Indians had freed themselves from his hold upon them. He knew only too well that the liberty-loving Dutch, and the Palatines, with their half century of English oppression behind them, the duplicity that had deprived them of the "Schorie" lands, would eventually bring independence to all.

William Johnson had received lavish gifts of gold and lands and honors from his King. He had visited England the year before and knew the mind of the English ministry and the war lords. In vision fearful, he saw the slaughtered tribes of his beloved Red Men, and the devastation of the homes of the settlers about him. It is a tradition that in conversation with close friends he had said,—"I see the conflict coming but I will never live to experience it." On the day of his demise (July 11, 1774) he was exhausted with the details of the Indian conference, listening to the complaints of the Indians and trying to appease them. While thus busy, a package of mail arrived from abroad and he left to examine it. In that hour Sir William Johnson, Baronet, passed away.<sup>21</sup>

Tradition has it that his last words were addressed to Joseph Brant—to control his Indian brethren. Instead, Brant, with Butler and Sir John Johnson, abetted by the Tories, wrought their murderous atrocities, even for years after the war was ended and the peace signed. Sir William was first buried beneath the altar of the stone church which he had erected at Johnstown. The body rested in a mahogany case, which was covered with lead. The latter was removed during the Revolution for making bullets. When St. John's church was burned in 1836 and rebuilt the vault was without the edifice. In 1862 the remains were reinterred in the adjacent ground and a monument erected.

Perhaps nowhere in American history can one find such a chapter that reveals the complete dissolution and utter collapse in so short a time of so ambitious a plan to establish a magnificent family kingdom in this western world. The vision splendid that filled all the sky of the soul of this protege of King and Admiral, and having a substantial basis of actuality in an already acquired boundless estate, soon crumbled into dust. The envy of the Indian, a builder of homes and buildings that still stand after centuries of time since

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21 " \* \* \* \* When the tempest which had long been brewing seemed at length about to break, and signs of a speedy rupture with the mother country thickened every day, he stood wavering in an agony of indecision, divided between his loyalty to the sovereign who was the source of all his honors, and his reluctance to become the agent of a murderous Indian warfare against his countrymen and his friends. His final resolution was never taken. In the summer of 1774, he was attacked with sudden illness, and died within a few hours, in the sixtieth year of his age, hurried to his grave by mental distress, or, as many believed, by the act of his own hand."—Parkman, *op. cit.*, pp. 91-2.

their erection, courted by prominent men here and abroad, Sir William Johnson lives today for the most part as a great name in his day. In the real making of the Mohawk Valley, and in its spiritual, industrial and cultural progress, and in all that realizes the vision that Arent Van Curler (beloved by the Red Man) who saw in the Mohawk Valley a land of beauty and settlement, we must turn to those hardy pioneers and their descendants, the men and women who came to this virgin valley before Johnson and after him, and turned this wilderness of the Mohawk into a land of homes and industries, of churches and colleges, and made it the great gateway to the west.

## ADDENDA

## Notes on Sir John Johnson, Baronet.

Sir John Johnson was born at Warrensbush, south of Amsterdam, New York, in 1742. The record of his birth is in the Fonda, New York Archives and shows that when he was baptised in the Fort Hunter Indian Mission he was baptised, as were his two sisters, Mary, born in 1744 and Nancy Anne, born in 1740, with the name of Weisenberg the mother, who was the housekeeper for Johnson. She was (Simms) an immigrant German girl who was engaged by Johnson soon after his arrival at Warrensbush. Some writers have made her the daughter of Reverend Jacob Weisenberg, who is said to have been a Lutheran missionary for many years among the Indians of the Mohawk Valley. But diligent research fails to find any such person. He is also reported to have been a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners but there is no reference to him in any of the "Johnson Papers" as published by New York State. Sir John Johnson did not wait to inherit the baronetcy from his father but secured it prior to the latter's decease—just how under the circumstances of his birth is an enigma.

Sir John Johnson, following in the wake of his father, installed at Fort Johnson, as his housekeeper, Clarissa Putman, at the time fifteen years old. We are not sure who Clarissa Putman was but she probably came out of the Putman family of Fort Hunter of Tribes Hill. This was in 1766. A son, William, and a daughter, Margaret, were born to Clarissa. On his return from a visit to London (1773), Johnson married Mary Watts of New York on June 30. Meanwhile Clarissa was first removed to the town of Florida, and later went to Schenectady where she spent the rest of her life. She died July 1, 1833 (Schndy. "Cabinet"), and is buried in Vale Cemetery (there was a re-interment from another graveyard) the stone giving her age as eighty-one. Her home in Schenectady was later the site of Van Horne Hall, and now the Schenectady Building and Loan Association on State Street.

Mary Watts (familiarly called "Polly"), was born October 27, 1751. At the time of her marriage she was twenty-two and Johnson was thirty-one. She died August 7, 1815, fifteen years prior to Sir John's decease. Her parents were John and Anne de Lancy Watts, the granddaughter of Robert and Mary Nicoll Watts. Mary Nicoll Watts was a sister of Frances Nicoll who married Edward Holland. Mary Nicoll Watts was the daughter of William Nicoll. In 1786, Mrs. Edward Holland was living in Bethlehem, Albany County, New York. The wife of Sir John Johnson, during her stay in Albany, after Sir John had broken his parole and escaped to Canada, spent a great deal of her time with "Aunt Holland."

On January 6, 1880, Major General Jn. Watts de Peyster delivered a lecture before the New York City Historical Society on "Sir John Johnson, the First American Born Baronet." This lecture was later pamphleted (12 pp.) but it bears no date or place of imprint. There is an appendix (pp. I-XII) which is titled "Proofs Considered in Connection with the Vindication of Sir John Johnson, Bart, Being an Address delivered before the New York (City) Historical Society at its Annual Meeting 6th of January 1880." A second appendix on pages XIII-XXXVI is also headed, "Proofs Considered." These writings of J. W. de Peyster are generally regarded as prejudiced and not authentic.—References: Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society, vol. II (1846-1847): New York Genealogical and Biographical Quarterly, vol. IX, p. 129; Introduction to John Watts Letter Book in New York Historical Society Collections for 1928.



## THE APPRAISAL OF THE LANDS OF THE CHOCTAWS AND CHICKASAWS BY THE DAWES COMMISSION\*

*By Loren N. Brown*

The latter part of the Nineteenth Century was marked by a movement on the part of the United States to bring all tribal governments to an end among the Indians of Indian Territory, and to open their lands to white settlement as far as possible. As an agency in this movement, the Dawes Commission was established to negotiate with the Five Civilized Tribes for the purpose of gaining their consent to this action. After a period of relative failures, the Curtis Act was passed on June 28, 1898, by Congress. This gave unmistakable evidence that the action was to be forced upon the Indians in the event they failed to give their consent. Negotiations were carried forward and these resulted in the Atoka Agreement between the United States Government and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, providing for the ultimate dissolution of separate tribal government and the change of the ownership of land from a tribal to a personal basis. In this article we shall merely attempt to trace the procedure by which the land was classified and prepared for allotment.

By ratifying the Atoka Agreement, in 1898, the Choctaws and the Chickasaws gave their consent to the division of an Indian empire into individual holdings; an empire that was measured to contain 11,338,935 acres, to be divided among a people, estimated by the chief clerk of the Union Agency, to number 28,454.<sup>1</sup> Since the Agreement had specified that the division was to be into equal shares, an enormous task confronted those charged with such division, before they could hope to carry it out with any measure of fairness, and it was to this preliminary work that the Dawes Commission and the Indian nations set themselves.

While the Curtis Act, passed on June 28, 1898, had provided for allotment of the lands, and winding up tribal affairs, it stated that the agreement should take precedence, in the event of conflicts, so the work among the Choctaws and Chickasaws was carried out under the terms of the Atoka Agreement. At a number of places, the two varied, so the procedure among the citizens of the two nations was different, in many features, from that followed in the other three of the Five Civilized Tribes, with whom the Commission

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\* At this time, when we are hearing of the movement in Oklahoma to sell the segregated coal and asphalt lands held by the Choctaw and the Chickasaw Indian nations, an article relative to the appraisal of this land and its segregation will be of interest.—The Author (Loren N. Brown, President, Northern Oklahoma Junior College, Tonkawa.)

<sup>1</sup> Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Report 1898*, "Report of Union Agent," 159; Atoka, I. T. *Indian Citizen*, Sept. 22, 1898.

dealt, even before agreements of a similar nature were reached with the remaining tribes. Where the Act had made no provision for appraisal and grading, the Atoka Agreement said that all lands should be classified by the Dawes Commission, as an act precedent to actual allotment. The Secretary of Interior, under the Act, was designated to confirm the allotment, while under the Agreement, this power, of issuing the patents, was placed into the hands of the Principal Chief of the Choctaws and the Governor of the Chickasaws, acting jointly. No allotments should be alienated, under the terms of the law, but the agreement provided that parts of the lands, secured by the Indians, could be disposed of, by them, after one, three, and five year periods. The survey, appraisal, and sale of townsites, under the Curtis Act, were to be under the direction of a separate commission for each town, while under the Choctaw-Chickasaw document, one commission for each nation was to be given this task. A difference in the length of time that coal and asphalt leases were allowed to run was present in the two documents, and the Agreement provided that the tribal governments were to continue, in a modified form, for eight years.<sup>2</sup> By ratifying the Agreement, the nations secured

Since Congress had made no additional appropriations for enforcing, either the Act or the Agreement, it became the duty of the Department of Interior to arrange for their enforcement, to a limited extent, with the staff at hand. The Curtis Act provided, however, for a special United States Indian Inspector, to be assigned to Indian Territory, who was placed over the Union Agent. To this office, was assigned J. George Wright, who had held a place as Indian Agent at Rosebud, South Dakota, and had later become Indian Inspector. He was to report to Muskogee on August 17, 1898. There, he was to instruct the Union Agent as to his duties, under the Act of June 28th, and to exercise a supervisory power over that officer. Wright was notified to refer all communications regarding citizenship and the renting of lands, to the Dawes Commission, for its consideration and advice.<sup>3</sup> In the actual enforcement of the laws dealing with the illegal holding of lands, however, the Commission merely referred the matter to the federal courts, or regular enforcement officers in the Territory.

Even before the ratification of the Atoka Agreement, the Secretary of the Interior had designated the Union Agent to collect all revenues accruing from royalties on existing leases and from permits. On July 21st and July 26th, the agent was notified that these provisions applied to import taxes, per-capita assessments, or other charges, such as those levied on cattle, by the tribes.<sup>4</sup> To this officer, was also given the task of carrying out the duties of the Secretary

<sup>2</sup> Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Report 1898*, 78-9.

some concessions, in their favor.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1899, 85-6; "Report of the United States Indian Inspector," 182.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 79.

of the Interior, relative to the handling of the coal and asphalt leases, and the collection of all royalties, therefrom, to be used by the tribes in financing their educational program, as provided in the Atoka Agreement. In this, according to that document, he was to cooperate with a coal commissioner from each nation, to be nominated by the chief executive, and appointed by the President of the United States. The tribal representatives appointed were N. B. Ainsworth, Choctaw, and L. C. Burris, Chickasaw, who assumed their duties on October 8th, working in conjunction with the Union Agent and Indian Inspector.<sup>5</sup>

From the first, there was dissatisfaction among the Indians and the mine operators, relative to the amount of royalty to be paid, and to other questions. As early as October 29, 1898, the Choctaw Council passed an act, by which the Chief was authorized to appoint a commission, together with a similar Chickasaw commission, relative to amending the Atoka Agreement, in that section, relating to the leasing of coal and asphalt, and to the payment of royalties.<sup>6</sup> In this matter, however, they failed to gain the cooperation of the Chickasaws,<sup>7</sup> and the Department of Interior took the attitude that it had authority to make all necessary changes, without consulting the Commission, through its power to set the regulations, governing such royalties, and elected to handle it with the coal commissioners.<sup>8</sup> This removed the matter from any authority of the Dawes Commission.

The shortage of appropriations delayed putting the provisions for the surveying, appraising, and sale of townsites into operation, because it had been agreed that each nation's commission was to be financed by the federal government. So, although Governor Harris had announced the appointment of Wesley Burney, as Chickasaw representative, and Chief McCurtain had let it be known that he had decided upon his nominee, both by September 15th,<sup>9</sup> no Presidential appointments were made until after December 21st. At that time, a supplemental appropriation for ten thousand dollars was made, to cover administration of these items.<sup>10</sup> On January 20, 1899, the President named John A. Sterrett, Troy, Ohio, as federal member of the Choctaw Commission, and Samuel M. Johnson, to the Chickasaw Commission.<sup>11</sup> Wesley Burney was appointed for the Chick-

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<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 98; *Indian Citizen*, Oct. 13, 1898.

<sup>6</sup> *Acts, Bills, and Resolutions of the Choctaw Nation*, Book 14, No. 51. Frank Phillips Collection, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla. (Hereafter cited, *Choctaw Acts*).

<sup>7</sup> G. McCurtain to T. Bixby, Sans Bois, I. T., Dec. 3, 1898. Dawes Commission, *Incoming Correspondence*, Series of 1898, No. 1592. Office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes, Muskogee, Okla. (Hereafter cited, *Incoming Corres.*).

<sup>8</sup> Dept. of Int. to A. S. McKennon, Washington, Nov. 11, 1898. *Incoming Corres.*, Series of 1898, No. 1431; Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Report 1899*, 101.

<sup>9</sup> *Indian Citizen*, Sept. 15, 1898.

<sup>10</sup> *United States Statutes at Large*, XXX, 770 (Hereafter cited, 30 *Stat. L.*).

<sup>11</sup> *Indian Citizen*, Feb. 2, 1899.



asaw Nation, as anticipated, and B. S. Smiser was given the position as Choctaw Commissioner. Here, too, the work was carried on under the Union Agent and the Indian Inspector, and the Dawes Commission was not directly connected with it. It was essential, however, since the Commission could do nothing toward allotting the lands until all townsites were set aside and reserved from such allotment.

No sooner was the Agreement signed, than the Indians began to clamor for immediate action. To this plea, the Dawes Commission could not respond at once. In spite of tribal memorials favoring the appointment of allotment agents;<sup>12</sup> resolutions in favor of their capitals for sites for the land offices;<sup>13</sup> and official letters urging that allotment be started as soon as practicable,<sup>14</sup> the Commissioners went methodically to work, to prepare for division. One thing which made the Indians think about allotment, was the fact the Secretary of the Interior, on October 7, 1898, announced the rules and regulations, governing the selections of allotments as provided in the Curtis Act and Atoka Agreement, holding that all leases of agricultural lands and grazing leases, made since January 1, 1898, were void. All made previous to that date, were effective only until April 1, 1899, and then, only to cover grazing privileges. No citizen was to be allowed to rent his share, before allotment, unless occupied as a homestead. All holdings, in excess of each citizen's share, must be vacated by March 28, 1899, nine months after the passage of the Curtis Act. While the amount to which each citizen should be entitled was not determinable, until after all rolls were completed and classifications worked out, the Secretary ruled that Choctaws and Chickasaws might make a preliminary selection of 240 acres, with Negro freedmen each taking forty acres, to be held as his prospective allotment; but ordered that all land, in excess of that amount, must be left unenclosed. On this unoccupied land, that still remained on April 4, 1899, members of the two nations might take up their allotments, if they were not holding lands before the allotment process started. Landholders were expected to take the lands they held as homesteads, and were not to occupy this vacant land.<sup>15</sup>

A number of objections to the rules, as promulgated, soon made their appearance. It was pointed out that it would be virtually impossible for anyone to be prosecuted for holding excess lands until the value of the land was set, in order that the equitable share, to

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<sup>12</sup> Resolution of Chickasaw Council, Sept. 15, 1898, *Chickasaw Manuscripts*, No. 7736. Archives, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Okla. (Hereafter cited, *Chickasaw MSS.*); C. D. Carter to Commission, Tishomingo, May 8, 1899, *ibid.*, No. 7339.

<sup>13</sup> *Choctaw Acts*, Book 16, No. 25; Chickasaw Memorial, Dec. 20, 1898. *Incoming Corres.*, Series of 1898, No. 1803.

<sup>14</sup> McCurtain to Bixby, Sans Bois, I. T., Jan. 11, 1899, *ibid.*, Series of 1898, No. 2092.

<sup>15</sup> *Indian Citizen*, Nov. 3, 1898.

which each was to be entitled, could be determined.<sup>16</sup> Chief McCurtain complained that the rules requiring the selection of 240 acres would be confusing, since a subsequent allotment would have to be made. The delay in passing title, might cause lands to revert to the nation, in the event of the death of the allottee, so the Chief suggested an immediate allotment of a homestead of 160 acres, title to be conferred at once.<sup>17</sup> Others objected to the rule that allotment should be taken on 240 acres, holding that nothing should be done until the entire selection might be made at once.<sup>18</sup> But, underlying all, was a feeling that whatever was to be done, should be done at once.

In the wake of this criticism, the Secretary issued an order on March 18, 1899, amending the previous rules, to permit the selection of homesteads of 160 acres, in lieu of the 240 acre allotment, with a provision that if such selection were not made within four months after the opening of the land office, it would be held that the citizen desired to choose the forty acres, upon which he lived, plus contiguous lands, until the amount, to which the family was entitled, was secured; or the Dawes Commission might make a selection for him. If the land desired were selected by another citizen, ten days notice must be given him of the intended selection, after which, a hearing might be held by the Dawes Commission to determine the claimant with the better right to hold the land. All other lands, not so occupied, might be held by citizens, except when contrary to the Choctaw pasture laws, until final allotment.<sup>19</sup> But the Dawes Commission was not yet ready to carry out allotment plans.

Continuing with its citizenship work, the Commission soon started preparations for determining the value of each forty-acre plot in the two nations. By December, 1898, the members were in correspondence with the United States Geological Survey, with a view to securing draftsmen and surveyors to do this work.<sup>20</sup> Such preliminaries were not always apparent, and attacks on the Commission for dilatory practices and for paying too much attention to the other tribes, with whom it had no agreements, continued to come from the people.<sup>21</sup> It merely continued its work of preparation.

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<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, Nov. 10, 1899.

<sup>17</sup> McCurtain to J. G. Wright, Sans Bois, I. T., Dec. 14, 1898. Union Agency, *Dept. Corres.*, Series of 1898, No. 1754. Office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes.

<sup>18</sup> *Indian Citizen*, Mar. 16, 1899.

<sup>19</sup> *Choctaw Manuscripts*, No. 17855. Archives, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Okla. (Hereafter cited, *Choctaw MSS.*); *Indian Citizen*, Mar. 30, 1899.

<sup>20</sup> C. H. Fitch to Bixby, Dennison, Tex., Dec. 23, 1898, *Dept. of Int.* to same, Washington, Feb. 6, 1899, *Incoming Corres.*, Series of 1898, No. 1791, Series of 1899, No. 2312.

<sup>21</sup> *Indian Citizen*, May 4, 11, 1899.

According to the Choctaw-Chickasaw agreement, each tribe was to be represented in the appraisal work, by a representative, to see that its interests were taken care of, and in May, 1899, William H. Harrison was appointed for the Choctaws and Ed B. Johnson, by the Chickasaws.<sup>22</sup> On the 15th of that month, Moses D. Kenyon, Minnesota, was selected as Appraiser-in-Chief for the Choctaw and Chickasaw lands, by the Commission, at a salary of \$2,000 per year.<sup>23</sup> The salary of the tribal appraisers, which was to be paid by the federal government, was set at one hundred dollars per month, by action of the Commission.<sup>24</sup> It was planned to put four parties in the field, as early as practicable, each party to consist of six appraisers, one clerk, two teamsters, and a cook. At least two of the appraisers, in each party, must be surveyors, for, even though the party was to live in one camp, it was to work in two divisions, of three appraisers each, and it was necessary to have some one with each group, able to measure the land, appraised. All field notes were to be reduced to record each day by the clerk and forwarded to the general office, for recording there.<sup>25</sup>

At a preliminary meeting of the Commission, attended by Messrs. Kenyon, Harrison, and Johnson, held at Muskogee on June 7th, a set of rules, and a schedule of classes for the lands were adopted. All values were to be arrived at, exclusive of improvements, and were to be taken in quarter-sections, unless such a marked difference appeared that it became necessary to determine the value of smaller areas, but, in no event, were the areas to be smaller than forty acres. Timber was to be appraised separately, without consideration of location or proximity to market, and values were to be adjusted by the Commission, based upon these factors, after actual land values had been set by the appraising parties. For the convenience of the men, ten arbitrary classifications of land were set up, with some nineteen sub-divisions, ranging from natural open bottom land, down through drainable swamp land, to rough mountain land; and the parties were instructed to list all lands in one of the classes enumerated.<sup>26</sup>

Intensive preparations were necessary to outfit such a large body of men for field service that was to continue for more than a

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<sup>22</sup> Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, *Report 1899*, 25 (Hereafter cited, *Commission, Report*); *Chickasaw MSS.*, No. 7340.

<sup>23</sup> Dawes Commission, *Minutes*, I, 27, Office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes, (Hereafter cited, *Minutes*); Bixby to Sec. of Int., Muskogee, May 15, 1899, Dawes Commission, *Outgoing Correspondence, Letter Press Book (L.P.B.)*, J, 243. Office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes (Hereafter cited, *Outgoing Corres.*).

<sup>24</sup> Tele., Bixby to Sec. of Int., Muskogee, Mar. 31, 1899. *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B. J, 504.

<sup>25</sup> Same to same, Muskogee, May 15, 1899, *ibid.*, 237; *Indian Citizen*, June 8, 1899.

<sup>26</sup> *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B. K, 185-6; *Commission, Report 1899*, 25. See Appendix D.



year. Purchases, ranging all the way from two carloads of mules, bought for direct shipment from Kansas City to South McAlester, and four 14'x14' and twenty 9'x9' tents, down to four complete sets of kitchen-ware for the parties and four United States flags, to be flown at the camps. The purchase of all this equipment was handled by the Commission's disbursing agent, H. Van V. Smith, a very capable man, who had been with the organization since the early years of its existence. While he was attached to the Dawes Commission, he was, by law, carried as a special agent of the Department of the Interior, and looked directly to the Department for all authority for extraordinary expenditures, within the regular appropriations. For months, he had been busy, examining samples and making purchases, and had, in fact, already outfitted two parties who went to work in the Seminole Nation as early as April 15th, 1899, the task there being much smaller than among the Choctaws and Chickasaws.<sup>27</sup>

All four parties took the field from South McAlester on June 26th; spreading out along the first standard parallel, north, across a strip, four and one-half townships wide from the Choctaw-Chickasaw boundary east to a point about twenty miles west of South McAlester.<sup>28</sup> The Appraiser-in-Chief, together with the tribal representatives, worked from camp to camp, covering all the region worked by the crews, who covered about three sections, per crew, making six per camp, each day. Each group of appraisers was instructed to go over each quarter-section, carefully, classifying the land into one of the divisions established, and agreeing on the report to be turned in. Each crew had a field record book, with the pages in duplicate, making a page for each tract. The duplicate sheet was then turned to the Appraiser-in-Chief who collated the work of all camps, and turned in a progress report to the Commission each week. The originals were kept in the book, being signed by the appraisers, until the book was filled, after which it was forwarded to the general offices at Muskogee, there to be filed in a fireproof vault for checking purposes.<sup>29</sup>

Working southward along the strip started, the crews were down to the Red River by October, from whence they moved east to another strip, of the same width, and started northward again.<sup>30</sup> One camp, No. 3, had to be abandoned, because of sickness in the crews, on August 12th, but by October 21st, it had been recruited again,

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<sup>27</sup> Dawes Commission, *Disbursing Officer, Correspondence*, L.P.B., 21, 215 et passim. Office of the Supt. of the Five Civilized Tribes; Commission, *Report 1899*, 23.

<sup>28</sup> *Indian Citizen*, July 13, 1899.

<sup>29</sup> Dawes Commission, *Report of Surveys and Appraisals*, Office of Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes, Muskogee, Okla., 4-5.

<sup>30</sup> *Indian Citizen*, Oct. 5, 1899.

and placed back in the field,<sup>31</sup> and on November 18th, party number 1, which had been working in the Seminole country, was ordered to the neighborhood of Goodland, in the Choctaw country, making five parties at work in that nation.<sup>32</sup>

Problems were constantly arising, in connection with the work. The appraiser-in-charge with each party was given a limited authority in the purchase of provisions and minor equipment, but must defer all major decisions to the Appraiser-in-chief, who started to make his headquarters at towns in the neighborhood of the parties, but was ordered, by the Commission, in October, to take up his abode in one of the camps.<sup>33</sup> It became necessary to instruct the appraisers to list any commercial timber on isolated tracts, in the notation about those tracts, instead of at the bottom of the sheet, as a whole, because of the variations in tracts.<sup>34</sup> They were, further, instructed to subdivide the land in the different classes, by ranking them as good, medium, or low within the class, as adapted to usefulness, and to make notations such as "Injured by washing, Injured by gulleys," etc., where found.<sup>35</sup>

Personnel changes in the camps were occasioned by resignations, illness, and removals. Johnson, the Chickasaw representative, threatened to resign because of inadequate salary, and was only induced to remain by a promise, on the part of the Chickasaw Nation, that it would be supplemented by additional grants to be voted by the Chickasaw legislature. The Seminole camp, under H. C. F. Hackbusch, was transferred to the Choctaw country, where its leader was made assistant appraiser-in-chief of the work, on November 11th.<sup>36</sup> But, in spite of the necessity of meeting these problems as they arose, the work was carried on, during the year, with marked regularity and success.

Even while the appraising work was progressing, another task must be taken care of. A survey of the improvements of the citizens, and the location of them on township and sectional maps became necessary in order that a record might be had of them when selections should be made of allotments. This was true, since each citizen was to be given the opportunity of selecting the land upon which his improvements were located, and no record had been made of such improvements. The work was first started by making compass traverses of the fences, with bearings on notable objects from points

<sup>31</sup> Commission, *Report 1900*, 27; A. L. Aylesworth to M. D. Kenyon, Muskogee, Oct. 17, 1899, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., O, 265-6.

<sup>32</sup> Bixby to H.C.F. Hackbusch, Muskogee, Oct. 30, 1899. *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., P, 130; Commission, *Report 1900*, 27.

<sup>33</sup> Tele., Bixby to Kenyon, Muskogee, Oct. 30, 1899, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., O, 501.

<sup>34</sup> McKennon to Kenyon, Muskogee, Sept. 25, 1899, *Ibid.*, 26.

<sup>35</sup> Instructions to Appraisers, N. d., *ibid.*, L.P.B., Q, 110.

<sup>36</sup> Bixby to Hackbusch, Muskogee, Nov. 3, 1899, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., Q, 75.

on the traverse lines, but this plan was found to be inaccurate because of discrepancies between this survey and the one previously made by the Geological Survey, which often placed houses on the wrong forty-acre tract, and it left no permanent markings, from which to locate boundaries. Accordingly, it was discarded and a more detailed plan adopted, under which, each section was divided into 160-acre tracts by intersection, and each tract marked by plane-table methods, similar to those used in topographical work by the United States Geological Survey. All lines were run with a solar compass and accurate notes were taken of timber lines, drainage, houses, orchards, fences, and all notable objects. At the end of each day's work, then, these notes were platted on a protractor diagram, on a scale of eight inches to the mile. Plats were filled in, from the planetable operations in the field, topographic sketching, planetable triangulation, buckboard traverse and stadia traverse, giving an accurate and detailed survey of each section of ground.<sup>37</sup>

To perform these labors, parties consisting of one surveyor-in-charge, one assistant traverseman, two traverse rodmen, and one crew, consisting of one surveyor operating the solar compass, two chainmen, one rodman, one moundman, and two axemen, together with one camp teamster and two cooks, were organized and put in the field in 1899. Party No. 1 went to work in the Creek Nation on June 1st, but was transferred to the Choctaw Nation in July, 1900, while No. 2 was organized and put into the Chickasaw Nation, near Ardmore, in December, 1899.<sup>38</sup> The Commission was working a large staff of men, by the end of 1899, and was contemplating the addition of many more, during the ensuing year. In order to carry this work forward, Congress was asked for \$641,105.75, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901,<sup>39</sup> and responded by appropriating \$524,000, the largest sum made available to the Commission, during any fiscal year.<sup>40</sup>

All during 1900, the appraisal and selection survey works were pressed vigorously. Continued changes were necessary in the program, however. Such a one, was that occasioned by the protest of Harrison, backed by McCurtain, that existing parties were not trained in timber appraisal. This necessitated the organization of separate parties for that work.<sup>41</sup> E. B. Johnson finally retired in January, 1900, and J. Frank Gooding was appointed in his place. While the

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<sup>37</sup> *Report of Surveys and Appraisals*, 10-1.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, 12; Bixby to L. R. Tuebner, Muskogee, June 19, 1900, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., 14, 303.

<sup>39</sup> 56 Cong., 1 sess., *House Doc.*, 220, 1.

<sup>40</sup> 31 *Stat. L.*, 221; C. J. Kappler, *Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties*, I, 700 (Hereafter cited, I Kappler); T. Bixby, Comp., *Laws, Decisions, and Regulations Affecting the Work of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes*, 33 (Hereafter cited, Bixby).

<sup>41</sup> Kenyon to Bixby, South McAlester, Mar. 8, 1900, *Incoming Corres.*, Series of 1900, No. 2307; *Indian Citizen*, Feb. 8, 1900.



latter was forced to work for some time without pay, through a misunderstanding as to the time of his appointment becoming effective, the matter was adjusted by the latter part of April.<sup>42</sup> Following a severe criticism of the work of the appraiser-in-chief and the two national representatives, in June, by H. S. Hackbusch, chief clerk of the Appraisal Division, Kenyon (who had been sent to inspect the work of the camps in operation at that time)<sup>43</sup> resigned on August 5th, and J. D. Wilkinson was appointed to take his place.<sup>44</sup>

Questions continued to arise, relative to the powers of the Commission, also. One of this nature was that of placing value on lands where known deposits of minerals, other than coal and asphalt, existed. While the Commission felt that no consideration should be given such matters, the Department instructed them, on July 24th, to add such to the value, by agreement, in a manner similar to that by which they were to arrive at the value of lands, taking location and proximity to market into consideration.<sup>45</sup> Similar questions arose in the minds of subordinates, and must be settled by the Commission itself. Such was shown in the letter of Bixby to Wilkinson, in which the latter was denied the power to transfer his men from one camp to another without the Commission's consent. It was held essential that the Commission know the whereabouts of its employees at all times.<sup>46</sup> The task of administering the work in its different phases, when it was in full swing, was, indeed, a difficult one.

By April 20, 1900, the field work of the appraising parties in the Choctaw Nation, with the exception of the groups working in the pine timber, was completed and the parties all removed to the Chickasaw Nation. In November, seven new parties were outfitted and placed in the field, speeding up the work to a point where the Chickasaw field work was completed by January 25, 1901.<sup>47</sup> The two selection survey parties remained busily at work, locating and platting the improvements of the citizens, at the close of the year.

A slight scare was thrown into the field forces of the Commission, in January, 1901, by a threatened uprising of "Snake" Indians. This group, made up chiefly of full-bloods, had as their avowed purpose the restoration of the old regime in the Indian country. While the disturbance centered in the Creek Country, there was a slight repercussion in the Choctaw Nation, causing rumors that the Dawes

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<sup>42</sup> Gooding to Bixby, Colbert, I. T., Apr. 23, 1900, *ibid.*, No. 3500.

<sup>43</sup> Report, H. S. Hackbusch, Muskogee, June 25, 1900, *ibid.*, No. 5102.

<sup>44</sup> Tele., G. V. Emerson to Bixby, Muskogee, Aug. 1, 1900 *ibid.*, No. 6449; Bixby to Kenyon, Muskogee, Aug. 13, 1900, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., 16, 269.

<sup>45</sup> Gypsum was found in the Chickasaw Nation. Appraisers to Commission, Marlow, I. T., Oct. 28, 1900, *Incoming Corres.*, Series of 1900, No. 9223; Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Report 1900*, 155.

<sup>46</sup> Muskogee, Sept. 27, 1900, *Outgoing Corres.*, L.P.B., 22, 231.

<sup>47</sup> Commission, *Report 1900*, 27-8; *Report of Surveys and Appraisal*, 5.

Commission officials were to be massacred.<sup>48</sup> For the sake of expediency, the parties were withdrawn from duty for a short period that month, pending an investigation by Commissioner Bixby, during which he visited Stephen Roberts, one of the leaders of the movement at his home near Atoka. He found the Indian very affable, and received his assurance that the officers of the United States would not be molested.<sup>49</sup> Following the collapse of the movement in the Creek country, nothing came of it among the Choctaws, and the forces were put back to work with renewed vigor. By this time, however, the only appraisal field work that remained unfinished, was that connected with the timber lands in the Choctaw Nation. The majority of the parties were in the act of removing to the Cherokee Nation, where they were transferred after completing their work in the Chickasaw country.

Six timber appraising parties were outfitted in January, 1901, to go into the Kiamichi Mountain and the Red River regions of the southeastern part of the Choctaw Nation, to determine the value of the commercial pine timber that grew there. In a region where there was little farming, many groves of from ten to fifteen acres contained pine trees, ranging from eight to thirty inches in diameter, that would cut a great deal of lumber. Into this region, each party consisting of one man in charge, six estimators, packer, teamster, and cook, went equipped with virtually the same materials that the other appraisers had used, with the exception that they used pack animals in the place of teams to transport much of their equipment through the mountainous region. Again, the estimators worked in parties of three each, with each party working along lines of about eighty rods width. One man would run a compass and measure and call tallies of 125 steps for the other two in his party, who remained together, forty rods away. At every four tallies (one-fourth mile) the estimators would have five acres on each side to gauge the amount of timber possible to be cut from that area. The inexperienced ones would be compelled to count the trees, but the experienced timber "cruisers", most of whom were brought in from Minnesota and Wisconsin, could determine just how much it would yield by merely looking at it. With the average day's work for a crew of three, totalling two sections, the work was completed by August 10, 1901, and an estimated one billion, two hundred fifty million feet of timber surveyed.<sup>50</sup> By August 15th, the tribal appraisers were released,<sup>51</sup> all field work having been completed. The land which had been classified by the parties, sent out for that pur-

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<sup>48</sup> Bixby to Dawes, Muskogee, Jan. 30, 1901. Tams Bixby, *Personal Correspondence*, L.P.B., 1, 12-4, office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes.

<sup>49</sup> *Minutes*, II, 3.

<sup>50</sup> *Report of Surveys and Appraisal*, 6.

<sup>51</sup> *Minutes*, II, 79; Monthly report, Aug., 1901, Dawes Commissions, *Outgoing Departmental Correspondence*, L.P.B. 1, 154-66. Office of the Supt. for the Five Civilized Tribes. (Hereafter cited, *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*).

pose, amounted to 11,653,151.71 acres.<sup>52</sup> As yet, however, the Commission was not ready to set any arbitrary value on each class of land, but was content to take the reports, without reference to location, mineral, or other factors, that might determine its actual value over and above its physical features.

A longer time was taken by the selection survey parties, largely due to the fact that there were not so many of them working, and that the regions where improvements were so thick made the work very complicated and slow. Particularly in the Choctaw country, along the M. K. & T. Railway, was the work slowed down. One extra party, in addition to the two working in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country in 1899, was added in 1900, and two more in June, 1901.<sup>53</sup> These five, then, were kept in that region, being shifted back and forth between the two nations, until August, 1902, when two parties were removed to the Cherokee Nation and the Chickasaw survey was completed.<sup>54</sup> It was not until January, 1903, however, that the work was completed in the Choctaw Nation, and the last party disbanded.<sup>55</sup> The long time taken in this work was one of the causes for the delay in opening the land offices in these two nations.

With the accumulation of the necessary information, work was started on the preparation of the books to be kept at the land offices, for their information. On one side of a page, a township plat was prepared, subdivided into forty-acre tracts, upon each of which was stamped the classification of its land. The remainder of the page was used for column ruled form, upon which a description of the classification, acreage, and value might be placed. On the reverse side of the sheet was a large township plat, divided into forty-acre tracts, upon which all reservations for townsites, cemeteries, railways, churches, schools, etc., were drawn, and the acreage of each computed.<sup>56</sup> Since one copy must be made available for each of the Choctaw and Chickasaw land offices, and one for the general office, each book must be made in triplicate. Fifteen such books were prepared, each one in duplicate, for the Choctaw and Chickasaw lands, out of a total of twenty-seven for all the nations.<sup>57</sup> Final work on them, however, could not be completed until after values were placed on the different classes of land by the Commission, even though work was begun on them while the field work was still going on.

In order that the boundaries of the lands to be reserved for different purposes might be determined, the Commission had to depend upon a number of sources for its information. In the case

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<sup>52</sup> *Report of Surveys and Appraisal*, 6; Commission, *Report 1901*, 35-6. See Appendix E.

<sup>53</sup> *Report of Surveys and Appraisal*, 12.

<sup>54</sup> Monthly report, Aug., 1902, *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B., 8, 38-62.

<sup>55</sup> Monthly report, Jan., 1903, *ibid.*, L.P.B. 11, 386-408.

<sup>56</sup> *Report of Surveys and Appraisal*, 13.

<sup>57</sup> Commission, *Report 1902*, 44.



of those for churches, schools, etc., they could be determined by the selection survey parties, the same as private improvements. For the borders of the established townsites, it must depend upon the townsite commissions in the nations, or upon private surveys, financed by towns, under provisions of an act of Congress passed May 31, 1900.<sup>58</sup> In both classes of towns, however, provisions were made only for those towns that were established at the time the Atoka Agreement was signed. In the above act, a recognition of the need for some agency for authorizing the establishment of new towns of not more than 160 acres, at the sites of stations established by the railways through the Territory, if made before allotment, was apparent. This power was given to the Dawes Commission with the stipulation that it might recommend such segregations to the Secretary of the Interior for his approval.

With the projection and building of new railroads through Indian Territory, another series of duties were added to those already assigned to the Commission. Recommendations involved thorough investigations of proposed townsites and the exercise of discretion with regard to the size of the reservation to be proposed, that took much of the time of its members. In making up its recommendations, in 1901, for sites along the Western Oklahoma Railway, proposed to run from Haileyville southwest through the Choctaw Nation into the Chickasaw country, it was necessary for one member of the Commission, with a surveyor, to make a trip of 120 miles in a wagon along the proposed route of the railway.<sup>59</sup> Another similar task presented itself in the following year, when all new towns were designated on the new Arkansas and Choctaw Railway, constructed between Durant and the Arkansas line, east of Idabel.<sup>60</sup> By June 30, 1903, proposed segregations for seventy-seven such townsites had been submitted to the Department for its action.<sup>61</sup>

This power was broadened by the Indian Appropriation Act of March 3, 1903, which set up a supplemental appropriation of \$25,000 for surveying, platting, and appraising such towns already set aside, and granted authority to the Dawes Commission to consent to the unrestricted alienation of lands for such purposes, by allottees, upon their request.<sup>62</sup> A lull in railway building activities, however, followed this and delayed the requests for such action, so that the end of the fiscal year of 1904, saw only seven applications for new Choctaw and Chickasaw towns, together with three for additions to established ones, which were forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior, and of these, three were denied.<sup>63</sup> This work was not so important

<sup>58</sup> This act provided that external boundaries of the towns could be located before the actual survey and appraisal by the townsite commission.

<sup>59</sup> Monthly report, Oct., 1901, *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B., 1, 439.

<sup>60</sup> Bixby to Sec. of Int., Muskogee, June 5, 6, 1902, *ibid.*, L.P.B., 5, 419-4.

<sup>61</sup> Commission, *Report 1902*, 45; *ibid.*, 1903, 34-5.

<sup>62</sup> *Stat. L.*, 982; Bixby, 79.

<sup>63</sup> Commission, *Report 1904*, 29.

in these nations, as in some of the other three, where railroad building was more marked during these years, but it added to the duties of the Commission.

Among the matters to be adjusted by the Supplementary Agreement of September 25, 1902, was that of re-writing the provisions dealing with the disposition of the coal and asphalt lands, in the pending allotments. By the time that the Atoka Agreement had been put into operation, it was seen that the matter of allowing the citizens to take the lands containing the deposits of such minerals as their individual allotments, while allowing all royalties to go to the tribal governments, would work an injustice, and cause the allotment work to become highly complicated. In order to eliminate the trouble, a provision was written into the new agreement that all lands containing coal and asphalt deposits up to 500,000 acres, including all existing leases, should be set aside and segregated from allotment. This was to be sold later under the direction of the Secretary of Interior and the coal commissioners of the two nations. The segregation was to be carried out under the direction of the Secretary of Interior, and he delegated the Dawes Commission to perform the task.

All information relative to existing leases was secured from the United States Indian Inspector by the Commission, and, in the course of securing it, the Commission found that 113,870 acres were held by the mining companies under leases that were valid, and must be taken into consideration.<sup>64</sup> The bulk of the coal was found in the Choctaw Nation; large deposits centering in the region from McAlester to Wilburton, with other large fields lying in the vicinity of Coalgate and Lehigh. Virtually all the asphalt was found in the neighborhood of Dougherty on the Santa Fe Railway in the Chickasaw Nation.

On November 26, 1902, Joseph A. Taff, of the United States Geological Survey, who had been assigned to the Commission on the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, reported to the Dawes Commission, together with three competent assistants appointed upon his recommendation. They were to survey the mineral lands of the two nations, to determine which lands should be segregated.<sup>65</sup> A field party was organized, and the winter of 1902-03 was spent in the work. On March 12, 1903, the work was completed, and on March 19th, the Commission submitted its report in which it recommended that 444,863.03 acres be designated as containing coal and asphalt deposits, and be set aside.<sup>66</sup> Upon its segregation, it be-

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<sup>64</sup> Monthly report, Nov., 1902. *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B., 10, 65-98.

<sup>65</sup> *Ibid.*; Sec. of Int. to Commission, Washington, Oct. 25, 1902. *Incoming Corres.*, series of 1902, No. 20439; *Commission Report 1903*, 33.

<sup>66</sup> Monthly report, Mar., 1903. *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B., 13, 42-65; *Commission, Report 1903*, 33.

come necessary that a record of the reserved lands be entered on the plat books being prepared for the tribal offices which were to open soon after. Through the efforts of the clerical staff of the Commission, the work was done rapidly, and all necessary notations made.

By November, 1902, the Commission was ready to complete its action on appraisals by setting the values of the several classes of lands in order that prospective allottees could determine the amount of land to which they might be entitled. To represent the tribes, the Chief executives appointed E. B. Johnson, former representative, and Hampton Tucker, as Chickasaw and Choctaw members, respectively, to prepare the schedule. They were placed on the payroll of the Dawes Commission at one hundred dollars per month, with necessary expenses, for one month, starting November 10th and served as advisors and guarantors of tribal interests.<sup>67</sup> On December 5, 1902, the Commission adopted the complete schedule of the Choctaw-Chickasaw appraisement, setting arbitrary values on the lands in the different classes. The prices ranged from \$6.50 per acre for land in class 1 to \$.25 per acre in class 10. This schedule determined the size of the allotments to be assigned under the scheme adopted in the Supplementary Agreement,<sup>68</sup> as varying from 160.19 acres of the first class land, up to 4,165.12 acres of land, should the allottee elect to take his allotment from land in the tenth classification.<sup>69</sup> On January 6, 1903, an arbitrary price of \$.50 per thousand feet was set on all appraised pine timber, regardless of its location,<sup>70</sup> and it then became possible for the clerks to complete the compilation of this essential information on the plat books, and with the addition of all necessary information, relative to segregations, they were prepared for immediate use. The values were set and citizenship rolls were being approved. Actual division of the patrimony of the citizens could now begin.

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<sup>67</sup> Bixby to Sec. of Int., Muskogee, Dec. 5, 1902, *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B., 8, 420.

<sup>68</sup> *Infra.*, 248 *et. seq.*

<sup>69</sup> *Minutes*, II, 220; Bixby to Sec. of Int., Muskogee, Dec. 6, 1902. *Outgoing Dept. Corres.*, L.P.B. 8, 434; *Commission, Report 1903* 50; *Indian Citizen*, Dec. 11, 1902. See Appendix E.

<sup>70</sup> *Minutes*, II, 235.



## DISSOLUTION OF THE WICHITA RESERVATION

*By Berlin B. Chapman*

## PART I

This article<sup>1</sup> is the sequel of my study, "Establishment of the Wichita Reservation," that appeared in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, December, 1933. That study traced events leading to the unratified agreement of October 19, 1872 whereby the United States granted to the Wichitas and other affiliated bands, for a home, the tract of country between the main channels of the South Canadian and the Washita, being bound on the east by the 98th meridian and on the west by the line of 98 degrees and 40 minutes. Attention was called to the fact that because the Wichita reservation was established by an unratified agreement, and yet maintained its identity as an occupied reservation, it has a place of peculiar importance in the history of the lands of Oklahoma Territory. The reservation embraced 743,-610 acres. It comprised adjoining parts of what are now the counties of Caddo, Canadian, Blaine, Custer, Washita, and Grady.

The Cherokee Commission in 1891 concluded agreements with the Wichitas, Kickapoos, Tonkawas, and Cherokees in the order named. The Wichitas (including the affiliated bands) were about

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<sup>1</sup> Miss Billie Marie Howard and Miss Helen Johnson assisted me in the preparation of this article while they were members of my Oklahoma History class in Oklahoma A. and M. College. Dr. T. H. Reynolds, Head of the History Department in the College, gave me the benefit of a critical and helpful reading of Parts One and Two of the article.

When the manuscript was nearing completion I submitted it to the Wichita Nation Association at Anadarko. Officers of the tribal organization honored the study by issuing a speedy call for a Grand General Tribal Council to elect a special Committee on Research that proper care be given the matter. The council on February 22, 1944, met at its usual place, Camp Creek, about five miles north of Anadarko.

The Committee on Research consisted of William Collins (Chairman), Reuben Standing (Secretary), Frank Miller, George Bates, Moses Caley, and Charles H. Pratt. The committee on March 18 submitted to me a very helpful study of eight pages which I hope will be the basis of an article prepared by the Association to appear in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* at the conclusion of Part Two of this article. Interests of the Oklahoma Historical Society can be much advanced by tribal organizations who are close to a historic past and able to utilize forces of the present.

The Wichitas have always asserted and the government has long rejected a tribal claim to a wide expanse of territory of which the "Wichita reservation" was only a part. In my study of the dissolution of the reservation I have been keenly aware of this delicate issue. In handling hundreds of documents I have made a sincere, and I believe successful, effort to steer the course of truth, veering neither to the defense of the federal government on the one hand, nor to that of the Wichitas on the other.

one thousand in number.<sup>2</sup> The subject of their taking allotments was not a new one. On December 5, 1886 Agent J. Lee Hall had reported that about 200 Wichitas, or nearly one-fifth of the affiliated bands, wished to have lands allotted to them in severalty, and he asked that surveyors be sent as soon as possible for that purpose. In accordance with the recommendation of the Department of the Interior, the President on June 4, 1887 directed that allotments as provided in the General Allotment Act, be made to such of the Wichitas as might be found ready, competent and qualified therefor.<sup>3</sup>

The Cherokee Commission in 1889 was instructed to negotiate with the Wichitas "For whatever rights they may have in the reservation occupied by them under the unratified agreement of 1872; the general allotment act (24 Stats. 388), 743,610 acres, taking into consideration their claim to lands selected for them by Superintendent Rector in 1859."<sup>4</sup> In their instructions this sentence also appears: "While at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency negotiations should also be had with the Wichitas and affiliated bands for any right or claim they may have to the lands now occupied by them in the southeast corner of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Executive order reservation, by virtue of the unratified agreement of 1872, or otherwise."<sup>5</sup> These instructions apparently were not available to the public; at least they were not included in the shortened document as Congress secured it on March 12, 1890.<sup>6</sup>

By the spring of 1891 only one allotment, if any, had been made on the Wichita reservation.<sup>7</sup> On March 23, David H. Jerome, Chairman of the Cherokee Commission, advised Secretary Noble that the Commission would resume its work May 1 by visiting the Wichitas.<sup>8</sup> The council opened at Anadarko on Saturday, May 9, with Jerome explaining the purpose of the council.<sup>9</sup> He said in part: "You can

<sup>2</sup> A census completed in 1889 lists the following: Caddos 517; Wichitas 164; Towaconies 145; Delawares 90; Keechies 62; Wacos 29. *Ind. Aff.* 1889, p. 188.

The term, "Wichitas and affiliated bands," whether accurate or not, goes far back into Wichita history. The Wichita Committee on Research on this point wrote: "The Wichita Nation is composed of the Wichitas proper, three bands (Wacos, Tawakonies and Keechies), and the Absentee-Delawares. These Delawares were affiliated by the Wichitas in 1837. However, the Wichitas had never affiliated their bands as they were all of the same blood. Nor had they affiliated any other people. Hence, it is an error to say: 'Wichita and Affiliated Bands.'"

<sup>3</sup> Act. Com. D. L. Hawkins to Sec. Int., May 18, 1887, OIA, 2629 Ind. Div. 1887; Sec. Muldrow to the President, May 23, 1887, OIA, *Rec. Letters Sent*, No. 50, pp. 377-380; Muldrow to Com. Ind. Aff., June 10, 1887, OIA, Special Case 147, no. 15557-1887.

<sup>4</sup> OIA, Library, *Misc. Documents*, p. 43535. The unratified agreement of Oct. 19, 1872 is in *H. Ex. Docs.*, 42 Cong. 3 sess., vii (1865), no. 65.

<sup>5</sup> OIA, Library, *Misc. Documents*, p. 43539.

<sup>6</sup> *S. Ex. Docs.*, 51 Cong. 1 sess., ix (2686), no. 78.

<sup>7</sup> *Ind. Aff.*, 1891, ii. p. 100.

<sup>8</sup> Letter of March 23, 1891, OIA, 406 Ind. Div. 1891.

<sup>9</sup> The Proceedings of the Councils the Cherokee Commission held with the Wichitas from May 9, 1891 to June 4, 1891 contain 162 typewritten pages and are in OIA, I.S.P., Drawer 14. Alfred M. Wilson, member of the Commission, was ill in early May and did not arrive at the council until May 13.

get a living better than you do now, and that is what we have come to tell you. The Government has a plan, which if you will adopt and try your best to live up to, will give you more comforts and better living to you, and your families, than you have ever had before. . . . The Government of the United States is the only friend and the best friend that the Indian has, and it is the Government of the United States that sends this food here to feed these Indians every day." Warren G. Sayre, member of the Commission, said that the Wichitas had nearly 700 acres per capita, which was "more land than you can use and more than anybody in this nation can use and that is the reason we are come to ask you to take a lesser piece."

The first spokesman for the Indians was Towaconie [To-waconie] Jim, a Wichita, and a leader among the affiliated tribes. His words, as recorded in the Proceedings of the Councils, were as follows: "He says he remembers of seeing you Commissioners at Reno last fall and we have been expecting you out here; he remembers the pleasant time and that we had a nice talk. He supposed that you would remember that we had a talk about two lawyers and when you came we looked around and did not see these two lawyers. You can look around and see these Indians and see they are not fit to do their business with a Commission; you can see they are sitting around smoking and the lawyers are not here and there is no use talking. About these two attorneys that we have we want them to be present and there is a telegraph office and you can telegraph them and if they answer that they will come then they (the Indians) will be here; and that they have already lost two days by being here and when you hear from those two men they will go on with the council and till then they can go on with their farming. It is time to plant sweet potatoes."

If there were any folks undesirable for the commissioners to have at a council, they were attorneys for the Indians. Jerome assured the Wichitas that attorneys would "do you no good," that the commissioners would "explain it to you," and that attorneys would cost the Wichitas "a great deal of money." He said the Potawatomes had paid \$30,000 to lawyers and got no better trade than the Absentee Shawnees, who had no lawyers.

The second and last Indian to speak on May 9 was Bull Wilson, Chief of the Delawares, who said he doubted if there was "a man in the house" who really understood a thing about allotments and cession of surplus lands as suggested by the Commission. And he added: "God gave the white man the right to find the Indian but he didn't give him the right to take all his property away from him."

The results of the first day's talk with the Wichitas must have convinced the commissioners that if an agreement were made, it would have to come from their own drive and determination, rather than from any enthusiasm the Indians had for it. The minds of the



Wichitas were bent on preserving their reservation in common if possible—at least to employ legal counsel if it were dissolved.

On May 11, Jerome opened the next conference with the ever-ready reminder of what could happen under the “Dawes Bill,” the “one rigid road” confronting Indians who did not deal with the Commission. Caddo Jake replied that “the Government should give us time to send our children to school and educate them and then it is time to send this Commission,” and if “pity” were had on the Indians the Commission would “return to Washington” and this time allowed. He said plainly that the Wichitas were not able to take land in allotment, were not able to take care of it, and that they wanted to return to their farm work and “not sit around here and talk for several days.” The Wichitas had been “quite a little while . . . fixing their country” and felt that it was their own; moreover they preferred to talk about “greater claims” and “old claims” the Wichitas had against the Government, as to how their lands were reduced to “this little strip of land north of the Washita.” They said their reservation was “about the right size” and that they would like to keep the land for the next generation. And they asked the Commission the perplexing question: “Can you tell us how many children are coming?” Religion and antiquity came into the picture with Bull Wilson declaring that “God gave us this land—it belongs to Him.”

Jerome held to his contention that the Wichitas had “much more land” than they could use, that unused land was of no particular value to them because it produced nothing they could eat. He called attention to the desirability of selling part of the lands for capital to improve the remainder. Sayre attributed the reason for the white man living “better than the Indian” to the fact that one had land in severalty while the other lived on a reservation. How hazy his conception was of progress by communal ownership of land, and how low it was possible for one to bow before the shrine of capitalism, must be judged by Sayre’s words when he said: “I believe the Indian is poor and has been poor and always will be poor because he lives on a reservation and does not take allotments and live upon land in severalty.”

On May 13 the Commission submitted to the Wichitas an offer filling less than a printed page.<sup>10</sup> It provided that the Wichitas should cede and convey and forever relinquish to the United States all their right, title, claim and interest in and to the reservation they occupied. The United States should classify said country into grazing and grain growing land, and should allot to each Indian on the reservation 160 acres of land, the title to which the United States would hold in trust for 25 years, during which time it could not be sold or encumbered, nor be subject to taxation. Should any

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<sup>10</sup> The offer is in *S. Ex. Docs.*, 52 Cong. 1 sess. v(2900), no. 46, p. 21.

Indian die during said period of 25 years, then his or her land should descend to his or her heirs according to the law of the State or Territory in which the land should be situated. Allotments could be taken anywhere in the reservation except on land set apart, used or occupied for agency, school, military or other Government purposes, and except in sections 16 and 36. Also the United States offered the Wichitas the sum of \$286,000 to be paid in amounts and at times specified. This was about \$270 per capita. Nothing in the contract should in any manner or to any extent whatever affect any claim said Indians, or any of them, had against the United States, either for money or lands outside of Indian Territory.

The Cherokee Commission, according to its usual practice, gave ample opportunity to the Indians to exercise freedom of speech in councils, but denied them the right to charge the Government or Commission with doing the Indians an injustice. Jerome's continual harping on how benevolent the Government was to furnish "gratuity rations and beef and clothing" etc., to the Indians, brought forth this reply from Caddo Jake on May 14: "It is just this way. The white people know we have no game to hunt and they know it is them that killed all the game; I see buffaloes lying all around; the white people killed them and only took their hides and leave the meat lying around and I think that is why they feed me." Again he made it clear that "when you have a little more than you want, you don't want to sell it and we don't want to sell it or take lands in allotment."

The price for the lands offered by the Commission was about 50 cents an acre, and this price the Wichitas refused even to consider. For about two weeks Jerome and Wilson held councils with the Indians who persistently wanted to employ legal counsel if the reservation were to be broken up.<sup>11</sup> The Indians were interested in employing a Mr. Orrick, a Mr. Myers, and possibly Luther H. Pike who was an attorney of Washington, D. C. Secretary Noble refused to approve a contract for attorneys, but the Wichitas were permitted to deal directly with them if they chose, which procedure left compensation for attorneys somewhat hazardous and uncertain. Attorneys had a contract for about ten percent of the sum to be paid for the lands, or for about \$28,000 at the price offered by the Commission, but the Interior Department never approved it. When Jerome pointed out how the Indians could save funds otherwise paid to attorneys, Towaconie Jim voiced the right of the Indians to spend their money for the service of lawyers if they chose. He added that an attorney who could "use that book could stand up and talk better."

Aside from the central question of securing attorneys, the Proceedings of the Councils for the two weeks show the Wichitas de-

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<sup>11</sup> Sayre went home and was absent from the councils, May 14 to 28.

fending their position as best they could. When Jerome said that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes had received only about 50 cents an acre, Towaconie Jim replied that because other Indians sold lands cheaply was "no reason why we should sell ours" likewise. And he added: "I will tell you we have our mind different." As for the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservation overlapping the reservation, he said that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes knew, as well as the Government, that the Wichita reservation did not belong to the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, "and no wonder they want to sell it at any price and want to get rid of it." The observation was made that if the land was not valuable the Government should not be trying to purchase it. "There is nothing on earth that is equal to the land," said a Caddo, Serjeant Tom.

Other matters dealt with lands for children then unborn, the density of population, and the ever westward onrush of the Caucasian race. Jerome's explanation that Indian children would inherit the lands of their parents, left Caddo Jake still opposed to the sale. He said he "might have so many children that he would die on that account; it is just like squeezing up until you can't breathe; it is just like the white people, they want more land and we want to keep what we have got."<sup>12</sup> Jerome's wise advice was, "You can't provide against everything, Jake. There may something happen in a hundred years from now that we don't think about." One of those things was the swing toward communal ownership of land, and another was the awful tangle in titles held by Indians who inherited fractional interests in land.

Serjeant Tom observed that the Wichitas could make a living on a reservation held in common just as well as if the lands were allotted. Said he, "80 acres of land for pasture—I don't think it would be 2 months before the cattle would be dying." One Indian had traveled among the whites and had seen a cow with a rope around her horns, tied to a stake. Such conditions were about as unacceptable to the Wichitas as 50 cents an acre for their lands. Wilson made it clear that "the Commission aint a going to pay you more than four bits," and he said that it was "not best to have too much land." Then he came close to the truth as to why the Wichitas should part with most of their lands: "White people tens of thousands, hundred of thousands are pushing west. A little while ago Oklahoma [district] was not settled, now it is full; the Government knows that you will be pressed and there is no way to help it; the Government wants to secure to you your lands allotted and then

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<sup>12</sup> Proceedings of the Councils, May 15, 1891, p. 56.



you will be safe. The vast throng is crowding them, they keep pressing. I can't help it—the Government can't help it."<sup>13</sup>

The last question the Wichitas asked in council on May 23 was whether lawyers would be available for council on Tuesday, May 26, when the next assembly should occur.<sup>14</sup> Jerome opened that council with this announcement: "It gives me great pleasure to say to these Indians that the man that they have wanted to see so long has come, Mr. [Luther H.] Pike."

We should pause to note that in 1832 Albert Pike had visited the Wichita country;<sup>15</sup> and in 1861, as Commissioner of the Confederate States, he had concluded a treaty at the Wichita agency with the Wichitas and other small tribes settled in the vicinity. Luther H. Pike was his son, whom we shall henceforth designate as, "Pike." Under date of March 29, 1883, Pike completed a brief of 31 pages, which Commissioner Hiram Price of the Office of Indian Affairs characterized as setting forth the history and claims of the Wichitas fully.<sup>16</sup> The brief was signed by Joseph Leonard

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<sup>13</sup> "Oklahoma, 'the home of the red man', a State of the Union! Not content with invading the Indian's home and compelling him to share it with us, we have even robbed him of his name. . . . To him the name is signalized as a badge of the white man's dishonor. To him the name of the new State is a mockery—a reminder of the things that were—overwhelmed by the onrush of the irresistible Caucasian race."—Grant Foreman, "The Home of the Red Man in Statehood," *Overland Monthly*, liv (Oct. 1909), pp. 368-374.

The Wichita Committee on Research wrote: "Grant Foreman's article hits the nail squarely on the head when it refers to 'invading the Indian's home and compelling him to share it with us.' That is exactly what was done."

<sup>14</sup> On May 22 Towaconie Jim said: "We don't understand all and all do not understand and the more you say the worse it is and now we won't know what to do and if we get attorneys we can go on with this council but the way we are if we raise nothing to eat we will be poor sure enough." He added, "We can't afford to lay around here like we been doing . . . and if we were getting paid like you Commissioners we could stay here, too. Jerome assured the Wichitas that the Commission would not recommend and the Secretary of the Interior would never approve their contract with the attorneys. Yet Jerome advised them on May 23 to lose no "time in finding out everything."

<sup>15</sup> Albert Pike to Sec. Int., July 12, 1882, *S. Documents*, 48 Cong. 1 sess., i(2162), no. 13, pp. 29-30. The Wichita Committee on Research wrote: "Albert Pike's report of his travels in 1832 shows that the Wichitas were the only aboriginal occupants and owners of the country west from the Cross Timbers to the 100th meridian. So, naturally, his son, Luther H. Pike, would be posted on this thing."

<sup>16</sup> A printed copy of the brief is in OIA, Special Case 81, L. 6216-1883; and in Okla. Univ., Frank Phillips Collection, John Ross Manuscripts and Papers, No. 2755-78. See also Price to Sec. Int., Oct. 9, 1883, *S. Documents*, loc. cit., p. 4.

At Anadarko on January 22, 1883 a general council of the Wichitas was convened at the office of Agent Hunt for the purpose of presenting their claim to all of the country in the Indian Territory lying west of the 98th meridian and south of the Canadian. A considerable amount of deposition was recorded in the *Record of Commissioner, Press Book of the Kiowa Agency*. Much of this material is in Frank Phillips Collection, *Copy of Record of Commissioner, Press Book of Kiowa Agency*, No. 614. This copy also includes testimony taken in February, 1883. Cf. *S. Documents*, loc. cit., p. 30 sq.

who claimed to be a "delegate" for the Wichitas, and Pike as "counsel." It asked that the executive order of August 10, 1869, establishing the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservation be rescinded and annulled so far as it embraced territory south of the Canadian; that in conformity with the "agreement of July 1st, 1859" a patent or grant under the act of May 28, 1830 be made to the Wichitas; that they be permitted to establish their right to the "portion of their country claimed" by Texas; and that their claims for losses and for compensation for "that portion of their country allotted to the Comanches, Kiowas and Apaches" be properly adjudicated.

In the hazy atmosphere of history it is a perplexing problem to determine how much merit there was in Pike's contentions. On September 21, 1883, Agent Philemon B. Hunt sent the Commissioner of Indian Affairs this telegram: "Luther Pike and Joseph Leonard have been here ten days and have acted so that I have ordered them off the Reservation. Both aggravated cases. Will send particulars by mail."<sup>17</sup> The next day Hunt wrote: "Before I knew it they were among the Indians making all sorts of misrepresentations, abusing the Honorable Secretary of the Interior and declaring the country west of here, rightfully belonged to them, but some white men wanted to rob them of it." Hunt said that Pike and Leonard had endeavored to make the Indians believe that Special Agent E. B. Townsend, in his somewhat unfavorable investigation, had "not regarded the justness of their claim;"<sup>18</sup> and that Pike had told the squaw men they had "a perfect right to trade among the Indians." On September 27 Hunt sent the following telegram to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs: "Since Pike and Leonard left the reservation they have been in communication with the Indians of this agency, and yesterday they held a big council with them just over the line in the Chickasaw nation. Will not the Secretary issue an order to cover the case?"<sup>19</sup>

On May 24, 1884 Pike instituted a suit in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia against Hunt for false imprisonment.<sup>20</sup> Secretary Teller held that Hunt's act was an official one and defended it. A delegation of Wichitas in Washington on June 9 did not recognize Pike as their attorney. On September 30, Teller denied the request of Pike to go upon the reservation as an attorney for the Wichitas, on the occasion of the visit of a Senate committee which was inquiring into certain Indian affairs.

<sup>17</sup> The tel. is in OIA, Spec. Case 81, L. 17834 and 17987-1883. Hunt to Com. Ind. Aff., Sept. 22, 1883, *ibid.* With Hunt's letter are some affidavits, one is by Towaconie Jim.

<sup>18</sup> Townsend to Com. Ind. Aff., July 26, 1883, *S. Documents, loc. cit.*, pp. 42-48.

<sup>19</sup> Tel. of Sept. 27, 1883, OIA, Spec. Case 81, L. 17827 and 17978-1883.

<sup>20</sup> There is a copy of Pike's letter to Atty. Gen., May 29, 1884 in OIA, 2510 Ind. Div. 1884. See also Teller to Atty. Gen., June 9, 1884, OIA, *Rec. Letters Sent*, No. 36, p. 33; and Teller to Com. Ind. Aff., Sept. 30, 1884, *ibid.*, No. 37, pp. 275-276.

This pause in our story shows that when Pike came to the council on May 26, 1891, he was not a stranger to the cause of his clients. In order that the Indians could consult him and make the best use of time, Jerome adjourned the council until May 27. The council merely met and adjourned on the mornings of May 27 and 28. By that time the Commission was ready to confer with the Indians by making it clear that "the way to make a trade is to come together and talk about it;" and that the dissolution of reservations would continue "until all the Indians, except perhaps the five civilized tribes, were put on allotments."

On May 28 the Indians said they had put "all these things" into Pike's hands. Pike spoke first of the "cordial reception" he received from the Commission, which reception apparently was very cordial.<sup>21</sup> He explained that it was his duty to ascertain what were the wishes of the Indians, and that such had been set forth on a paper, except as to some modification in regard to allotments. His request for adjournment until May 29 was granted. On that day he was ill and unable to talk to the Commission for the Indians. Jerome took occasion to remind the Indians that dissolution of their reservation was coming "one way or the other, either as we propose or under the law."<sup>22</sup>

There was an atmosphere of vigor in the council on Saturday, May 30. The Indians submitted a counter proposition to that made by the Commission on May 13.<sup>23</sup> The price of sale was raised to \$715,000, or about \$1.25 per acre, the payments to be made to the Indians directly, and distributed among them per capita. The reservation should "be divided by a north and south line, so that on the east side thereof shall be the quantity requisite for the apportionment to individuals contemplated—this land to be held by the Indians in common—the tract on the west side of said line to be opened to settlement by citizens of the United States."<sup>24</sup> The Indians should reserve the right to prefer and prosecute against the United States any and every claim they might believe they had, save and except any as to the reservation they then occupied. When there was a fractional part of a section, caused by the meandering of either the Canadian River or the Washita River, the individual whose selection should adjoin such fractional part of a section or sections should have the preferred right to purchase the same at \$1.25 per acre.

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<sup>21</sup> Wilson, who had known Pike a number of years, said that "if the Indians have a friend in America it is Pike."

<sup>22</sup> Sayre paid lengthy tribute to Henry L. Dawes as one who for more than twenty years had "made it his business to study the Indian Question and always in the interest of the Indians and not in the interest of the Government or the white man." Said Towaconie Jim, "We don't think he could think very much of the Indians and he don't think of the coming generation."



Pike spoke quite forcibly for his clients. He said: "I think I can show that these Indians have a complete chain of title." He observed the circumstances under which the agreement of 1872 was made showed that the delegates had no authority to make it; that there was no council held, and that the Indians went to Washington for no other purpose than to help the Government with the Comanches and Kiowas. Attention was called to the first proposition submitted to him by his clients, namely that they sell out completely and go to Mexico. He advised them to take allotments on their reservation, but agreed that they should have \$1.25 an acre for the surplus lands. He noted that they could not go away and purchase lands on the continent for less than that amount, and that that sum had been paid the Choctaws and Chickasaws for certain Cheyenne and Arapahoe lands just west of the reservation. He voiced the desire of the Indians to have the money paid to them, asserting their capability of spending it, and noting that "these traders all say that they are close bargainers and well acquainted with values."

The Commission pointed out that it could negotiate only for the reservation occupied by the Wichitas, and that it could not deal for a smaller reservation held in common, but that lands must be taken in allotments. It explained that allotments might be taken in close proximity to each other, thus comprising a compact territory. Wilson said that the Indians would profit by the settlement and development of the region; that they could "select" allotments while the whites would get the sand hills, and "stand the expense of all these schools." He did not think Congress would approve a payment of \$1.25 an acre; and Sayre said plainly: "We will not agree to your price." Sayre pointed to the proposition submitted by the Wichitas in which they proposed to pay only \$1.25 an acre for river lands—most fertile of all.

On Monday June 1, Jerome, Sayre and Wilson, each in turn set forth long and quite able arguments stating why \$1.25 could not be acceptable to them. Rains impeded negotiations so that on June 2 no discussions were carried on as to the points in controversy. However, a paper bearing that date was prepared for discussion in council on June 3.<sup>23</sup>

The paper, doubtless the work of Pike, set forth briefly and effectively the position of the Wichitas. It stated that Congress would say ultimately what price per acre should be paid, and that Congress had not forbidden the Commission to offer \$1.25 if such were a just and fair price. Hence it was proposed that an agreement "be made in due form reciting all the propositions that are agreed

<sup>23</sup> The counter proposition is in *S. Ex. Docs.*, 52 Cong. 1 sess. v(2900), no. 46, p. 22.

<sup>24</sup> Pike had told the Wichitas that the Commission would not agree to setting off "the smaller reservation." *Proceedings of Councils*, May 30, 1891, p. 128.

<sup>25</sup> The paper of June 2, 1891, is in *S. Ex. Docs.*, *loc. cit.*, pp. 22-23.

upon and complete, with the single exception of appropriate blank spaces for the insertion, first, of the amount that Congress shall determine as the price of the surplus lands, and, second, for the insertion of the amounts of the payments thereof."

In council Towaconie Jim presented the paper, saying that the best way was to postpone the price "till the next Congress and let them settle it." An interesting conference followed with the Commission asking questions and Pike answering them. He held out for \$1.25 an acre, and ventured the opinion that under competitive bids the government could get \$2.50 per acre. He said that the offer to negotiate assumed that the Indians had a voice in the matter, and that whether the price was 50 cents or \$1.25 an acre could well be left to "the conscience of Congress." Sayre's contention that "our proposition is better than to go to Congress" was of no avail, and the Commission decided to yield that much to the Indians.

By an agreement of June 4 the Wichitas ceded and relinquished all their claim, title and interest in and to the reservation they occupied.<sup>26</sup> Article Five provided that in addition to allotments and other benefits received under the articles of agreement, the Wichitas claimed and insisted that "further compensation, in money, should be made to them by the United States for their possessory right" in and to the surplus lands of the reservation. Therefore it was agreed that the question as to what sum of money, if any, should be paid to said Indians for such surplus lands should be submitted to Congress, the decision of that body to be final and binding upon said Indians. No provision was made as to the manner in which the purchase price of the lands should be invested or paid.

Article Six of the agreement was taken from the proposition submitted by the Wichitas in council on May 30. It reserved to them the right to prefer against the United States any and every claim that they might believe they had the right to prefer, save and except any claim to the reservation they occupied.

Otherwise the agreement resembled that made with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes. Each allottee was entitled to 160 acres of land, at least one half of which should be grazing land.<sup>27</sup> Provisions regarding sections sixteen and thirty-six, school lands and other lands used for public purposes and lands already improved by the Indians were like those in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe agreement in regard to allotments. The age of allottees, provisions for minors, the periods

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<sup>26</sup> The agreement of June 4, 1891, is in *S. Ex. Docs.*, 52 Cong. 1 sess. i (2892), no. 14, pp. 9-11; amended forms are in *Ind. Aff.* 1895, pp. 455-457; 28 *Statutes*, 895-897.

<sup>27</sup> A second classification of land in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe agreement was called "bottom land;" in the Wichita agreement it was termed, "grain-growing land."

of selection and alienation and the provisions for 160 acres for educational or religious organizations,<sup>28</sup> all followed the provisions in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe agreement.

The adult male population numbered 227. Of this number 152 signed the agreement, among whom were all the chiefs and headmen of the tribe. Some were absent because of swollen creeks and rivers, but the commissioners wrote that they were assured by the Indians that every one entitled to sign would do so if present.<sup>29</sup> After signing the agreement the commissioners told the Indians that if they should agree to accept the price offered them, before Congress should assemble in the following December, the commissioners would return and make a supplemental agreement. But as the commissioners suspected, and certainly not to the detriment of the Wichitas, the suggestion was of no consequence.

The Commission on June 5 transmitted the agreement to the President with a letter stating that there seemed to be no possibility of agreement on the price of the surplus lands, and if same had not been left to Congress, negotiations would have failed entirely. They said the Wichitas made claim against the United States for large sums of money due them for lands alleged to have been taken from them and for property destroyed by agents or employees of the government, as far back as the memory of man went. They noted that the Indians were tenacious in making these claims, which were beyond the jurisdiction of the Commission to consider.

Although the Commission recommended nothing as to price, they said that the title of the Wichitas was possessory only. "They do not have a treaty or even an agreement with the United States, that it shall be their country."<sup>30</sup> The United States put them here, remnants of half a dozen or more tribes, has protected them in their possession and given to them as a gratuity rations and beef and clothing, agricultural implements, etc., amounting in the aggregate to more than a million dollars." The Commission also referred to the "very doubtful character of their title, if any they have," and voiced the opinion that to pay them more than the price offered "would be harmful rather than beneficial." The statement was made that the greater part of the surplus lands were of doubtful value, or no value, for farming purposes, and not useful even for grazing, where holdings were limited to a quarter section.

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<sup>28</sup> Congress clarified Article Seven of the Wichita agreement by appending this sentence thereto: "That whenever said lands are abandoned for school purposes the same shall revert to said Indian Tribes and be disposed of for their benefit." *H. Reports*, 53 Cong. 3 sess. i(3345), no. 1585.

<sup>29</sup> Commissioners to the President, June 5, 1891, *S. Ex. Docs.*, loc. cit., pp. 6-8.

<sup>30</sup> This statement strikes at the heart of the claim of the Wichitas, as recently presented by their Committee on Research to the author of this article.



Commissioner T. J. Morgan of the Office of Indian Affairs was somewhat in doubt as to the value which should be placed upon the lands.<sup>31</sup> He thought that no less sum should be fixed upon them than that offered by the Commission, and that that amount probably was as just and equitable as could be determined upon from the information then at hand. The claim of the Choctaws and Chickasaws to the Wichita reservation was quite pronounced, and he noted that equity did not demand that the United States pay full value to them and also to the Wichitas for the lands.

President Harrison on January 6, 1892 transmitted the Wichita agreement to Congress.<sup>32</sup> On February 25 he transmitted to that body a memorial of 25 pages in the matter of the claim of the Wichitas to the lands they occupied, and for consideration in connection with the agreement.<sup>33</sup> The memorial was prepared by Luther H. Pike, adopted citizen of the Wichitas, their duly constituted delegate *ad hoc* before the Congress. The memorial has the appearance of a scholarly work, delving into the fragments of early historical materials, in an effort to show the antiquity of the Wichitas' occupation of and their title to the country occupied by them. The Wichitas claimed they were never nomads but had always lived in fixed habitations and tilled the soil, growing corn and other products. A chronological account was given of the history of their occupation, beginning with Spanish evidence of 1536. It was claimed that this early Indian title, of a once strong people, was never purchased by the United States. Thus when the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservation was established, the consent of the Wichitas was not solicited or obtained. The memorial contended that the Wichitas had been continually the friends of the people of the United States; and that their right to \$1.25 per acre for the surplus lands of the reservation they occupied was fully sustained by the facts and every principle of justice and right.<sup>34</sup> Congress was asked to confer upon the Court of Claims jurisdiction to hear and determine claims described in Article Six of the agreement.

Congress was slow to approve the Wichita agreement. The Wichitas wanted to see if the Democratic administration would not help them more than the Republican administration. On October 16, 1893 a petition signed by Towaconie Jim, Caddo Jake, Bull Wilson and other "chieves and headmen" of the tribe, was addressed

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<sup>31</sup> Morgan to Sec. Int., Sept. 26, 1891, *S. Ex. Doc., loc. cit.*, pp. 2-6.

<sup>32</sup> *Messages and Papers of the Presidents*, ix, 213.

<sup>33</sup> The memorial is in *S. Ex. Docs.* 52 Cong. 1 sess., v(2900), no. 46. The original manuscript is in OIA, 1270 Ind. Div. 1892.

<sup>34</sup> The Cherokee Commission thought payment to the Wichitas of more than the amount it offered would be harmful rather than beneficial. Pike referred to "the individual Indian with his 160 acres and \$270.32" as not being particularly well off, considering construction of fences and starting out upon a new life.

to Congress.<sup>35</sup> It stated that when they signed the agreement they understood that consent was given only to a certain proposition of their own whereby the western side of the reservation might be sold at \$1.25 an acre, and the east side be held in common. "We did not know," they said, "that Uncle Sam would send such smart men as the commissioners were, to take the last home we have." They requested that the agreement be rejected unless they were paid \$1.25 an acre for the surplus lands.

On February 17, 1894 Acting Commissioner Armstrong wrote that the Wichitas "are as much entitled to \$1.25 per acre as any other Indians who have received it. These Indians had confidence enough in the government to leave it to Congress to say what amount they should have and I trust that Congress will deal generously with them."<sup>36</sup> Armstrong suggested that the value of the services rendered by Pike should be left to Congress to determine, but he thought that six percent (rather than ten percent) of the amount to be paid to the Indians would not be an unreasonable allowance. Pike had no contract approved by the Interior Department.

There was division of opinion and interest as to the proper time to allot lands on the Wichita reservation and to open the surplus lands to white settlement. Armstrong recommended that the Wichitas, and also the Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches, be given at least three years after the date of the ratification of the agreements in which to make their selections of land and to get fairly settled upon their allotments before any of the lands should be opened to white settlement. Secretary Hoke Smith did not fully agree to the three year period.<sup>37</sup> He said: "It will require considerable time to make the allotments, and since the ceded lands can not be designated until after that, the opening will be necessarily delayed that long. This should, in my opinion, be sufficient time to enable the Indians to adjust themselves to their new condition." It was apparent, however, that Smith would oppose the opening of the Wichita reservation to white settlement, before the validity of the claim of the Choctaws and Chickasaws to the Leased district was determined.<sup>38</sup> In this respect the lands of the Wichita reservation were like those of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservation. If the Choctaws and Chickasaws had a reversionary interest in the lands, such interest would be of little value while the lands were occupied by "friendly Indians," but would mature to a portion of the lands when the "friendly Indians" were removed therefrom.

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<sup>35</sup> The petition is in OIA, Special Case 147, 43591-1893. Wichita papers are filed under, "Kiowa Agency." The Wichitas apparently referred to the proposition they submitted in council, May 30, 1891.

<sup>36</sup> Armstrong to Sec. Int., OIA, *L. Letter Book* 274, p. 264.

<sup>37</sup> Smith to A. J. Hunter, March 30, 1894, *H. Documents*, 54 Cong. 1 sess. xlvii (3414) no. 97, pp. 9-11.

<sup>38</sup> Same to same, May 8, 1894, *ibid.*, 4-9.

There are traces of the usual clash between the interests of the cattlemen and those of the homesteader and industrialist. In April 1892, the Secretary of the Interior decided that it was best, during the pendency of legislation for the ratification of the Wichita agreement, to permit no lease of any lands on the reservation. However, on June 13 he directed, that in view of the loss of crops by reason of high water, the lands might be leased for a time to terminate at the will of the Secretary, and in no event to extend beyond March 31, 1893.<sup>39</sup> On January 30, 1894 Dennis T. Flynn submitted in the House of Representatives a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to withhold his approval of leases of lands on the Wichita reservation and that of the Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches, for grazing purposes.<sup>40</sup> The House Committee on Indian affairs recommended the passage of the resolution on February 8. Many leases were waiting the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.<sup>41</sup> The purpose of the resolution was to keep open the way for ratification of agreements to open the reservations of the two tribes. A resolution, purporting to be unanimously adopted at a mass meeting of the citizens of Chickasha on March 20, was addressed to Secretary Smith the following day by F. E. Gilmore, chairman.<sup>42</sup> Vigorous protest therein was made against future leasing of lands of the Wichita reservation and the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservation to cattle syndicates. Representatives of the syndicates were charged with making untrue and unwarranted charges against the Cherokee Commission and the interpreters in the making of agreements for the dissolution of the reservations. A plea was made in the interests of the "honest, patient homeseeker" and in behalf of the Indian citizens for the promotion of business society and good government, best to be attained by the early ratification of the agreements by Congress and the speedy opening of the surplus lands to actual homestead settlement.

Within a month after Congress convened on December 3, 1894, more than a dozen petitions or resolutions were received urging ratification of the agreements and the opening of the Wichita reservation and the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservation to white settlement.<sup>43</sup> Among the petitioners were the Commercial Club of

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<sup>39</sup> Noble to Com. Ind. Aff., June 13, 1892, OIA, *Rec. Letters Sent*, No. 76, pp. 38-39.

<sup>40</sup> *H. Misc. Docs.*, 53 Cong. 2 sess., i(3229), no. 87. The Wichita Committee on Research wrote: "It should be now emphasized strongly that the moneys from leases of the Wichita lands for years ceased to be considered after the agreement of 1891; and the Indians were defrauded to the amount of lease money which had been going to them."

<sup>41</sup> *H. Reports*, 53 Cong. 2 sess., i(3269), no. 386. Opposition to leasing of lands seems to have continued until the reservations were opened. See *H. Reports*, 56 Cong. 1 sess., iii(4023), no. 748.

<sup>42</sup> Resolution of March 21, 1894, OIA, 1037 Ind. Div. 1894.

<sup>43</sup> See "Wichita Reservation," *Index to the Cong. Record*, 53 Cong. 3 sess., p. 103.



Kansas City, Missouri; business men of Fort Worth, Texas; 395 citizens of Chickasha; 80 citizens of El Reno; 44 citizens of Navajoe; and several groups of citizens of Texas. About the time of the opening of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservation in 1892, the Secretary of the Interior designated the Wichita reservation as, "County I."<sup>44</sup>

By an Act of March 2, 1895, Congress accepted and ratified the Wichita agreement, appropriated \$15,000 for making allotments to the Wichitas, and provided that the surplus lands should be opened to settlement within one year after the allotments were made.<sup>45</sup> The compensation to be allowed in full for all Indian claims to these lands which might be sustained by the court provided for in the act, should not exceed \$1.25 per acre for so much of said land as would not be required for allotment to the Indians as provided in the agreement. Entrymen were required to pay \$1.25 per acre for lands entered at the time of submitting final proof. As fast as the lands opened for settlement under the act were sold, the money received from such sales should be deposited in the Treasury subject to the judgment of the court in the suit provided for in the act, less such amount, not to exceed \$15,000, as the Secretary of the Interior might find due Luther H. Pike, deceased, in accordance with his agreement with said Indians, to be retained in the Treasury to the credit and subject to the drafts of the legal representative of said Luther H. Pike. No part of such money should be paid to said Indians until the question of title to the same should be fully settled. The question of compensation to the Wichitas was bound up with that involving the claim of the Choctaws and Chickasaws for compensation for lands in the Leased district, and passed on to the Court of Claims with provision for appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, the courts being empowered to give "such causes" precedence. An account of this historic suit in which the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations were plaintiffs and the "United States and the Wichitas and affiliated bands of Indians parties defendant,"<sup>46</sup> is planned as Part Two of this series of articles.

Under the terms of the act of March 2, 1895 the United States was expected to transfer good titles to allottees and settlers, although

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<sup>44</sup> *Ann. Rept. Gov. of Okla., 1899, H. Documents, 56 Cong. 1 sess., xxi(3918), pp. 742; 744.*

<sup>45</sup> *28 Statutes, 895.* The "one year" provision tightened the reigns on the Secretary of the Interior.

<sup>46</sup> Attorneys employed by the Wichitas were Josiah M. Vale, George D. Day, Andrew A. Lipscomb, and Dennis W. Bushyhead. A copy of the contract, made in May 1895, is in *H. Documents, 54 Cong. 1 sess. xlvii(3414), no. 97, pp. 11-13.* The attorneys should receive a sum equal to six percent of the compensation paid to or set aside for the use and benefit of the Wichitas for their possessory right in and to the surplus lands of the reservation. In regard to Bushyhead relinquishing his interest in the contract, see Smith to Com. Ind. Aff., May 15, 1896, OIA, *Record Letters Sent, No. 88, p. 451.*

the title held by the United States was in dispute. Secretary Smith delayed suggesting to the President the appointment of allotting agents on account of the disadvantages which might accrue from having the allotments made and the surplus lands thrown open to settlement before the claim of the Choctaws and Chickasaws was adjusted. He thought that the authority given the Interior Department under the act of Congress should not be exercised "until the cloud is removed from the title."

Although Congress kept the Wichita agreement three years before approving it, the House of Representatives did not favor delay on the part of the Secretary of the Interior in the dissolution of the reservation. Before the close of the year a resolution was passed directing him to report the reasons and causes operating, if any, to delay its dissolution.<sup>47</sup> In his reply Smith observed that if the Choctaws and Chickasaws were found to have a reversionary interest in the lands it would be better to purchase that interest while it was still contingent, rather than to convert it into a fee simple title, and then begin negotiations for its purchase.<sup>48</sup>

According to Acting Agent Frank D. Baldwin, the Wichitas were "in no condition to accept the obligations" imposed by the agreement made with the Cherokee Commission.<sup>49</sup> He urged that they be secured in their homes and location by allotment for at least one year before the country should be thrown open to settlement.<sup>50</sup> The next year he stated that it would be inadvisable to open the reservation to settlement for at least five years.<sup>51</sup>

The Indians had no assurance that Baldwin's recommendations would be honored. On May 26, 1896 Jim Bobb, Delaware Chief, wrote to Secretary Smith: "We are bothered about this allotmente. The Wichitas and Caddoes are worried about it—Because Commis-

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<sup>47</sup> Secretary Smith was also asked to explain "whether any of his connections or relations by blood or marriage are acting as attorneys for said Indians [Wichitas], or any party or parties interested in delaying the opening of the same to settlement, if not incompatible with the public service." Dennis T. Flynn, in sponsoring the resolution, made a vigorous speech that brought applause and laughter on the Republican side of the house. *Cong. Record*, 54 Cong. 1 sess. (Dec. 16, 1895), pp. 177-178. Fortunately Secretary Smith could answer the question in the negative. The resolution is in *H. Documents*, *loc. cit.*, p. 1.

<sup>48</sup> Smith to Speaker of House of Representatives, Dec. 23, 1895, *H. Documents*, *loc. cit.*, pp. 1-4.

<sup>49</sup> Tel. to Com. Ind. Aff. Feb. 13, 1895, OIA, Special Case 147, no. 6916-1895.

<sup>50</sup> Baldwin to Com. Ind. Aff., Aug. 29, 1895, *Ind. Aff.*, 1895, p. 252.

<sup>51</sup> Same to same, Aug. 28, 1896, *ind. Aff.*, 1896, p. 256.

sioner Jerome have fooled us, pretty bad.”<sup>52</sup> He stated that the Indians north of the Washita did not understand allotments and had no desire to take them, especially since they had seen how Indians fared on reservations where allotments had been made.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs on April 25, 1895, suggested that the work of allotment should be commenced as soon as practicable, and let matters await action by the Secretary of the Interior.<sup>53</sup> Before the close of 1896, D. R. Francis, who succeeded Smith as Secretary, noted that there was “some obstacle in the way” of making allotments to the Wichitas, and took the matter into consideration.<sup>54</sup>

The most consistent protest of an official nature against allotting the lands came from Acting Agent Baldwin. The *El Reno News* on January 22, 1897, carried the following story: “Agent Baldwin of Anadarko has been asked to resign. The cause evidently lies in his relation with the cattlemen of the Indian country. The climax was reached when he recently endeavored to put off the opening of the Wichita country. His dismissal is regarded as a favorable omen by those who are most interested in the opening. Baldwin recently leased the land down there for a new term to the cattle men and this was done absolutely without authority, with the evident intent of bluffing the thing through and bringing the government to endorse his action, but he run against a stump this time. Secretary Francis didn’t bluff and the cattle men would appear to be in the soup as well as the agent.” A week later it was reported that Baldwin had filed a petition in Washington against opening of the reservation.<sup>55</sup>

In the last quarter of the Nineteenth Century there was in what is now the western half of Oklahoma an almost continuous struggle between the interests of prospective settlers and those of the cattlemen. The local press favored settlement of the country.<sup>56</sup>

#### TO BE CONTINUED

<sup>52</sup> Letter to Secretary Smith, OIA, *Special Case 147*, 20868—1896.

<sup>53</sup> Browning to Sec. Int., Dec. 24, 1896, OIA, *L. Letter Book* 345, p. 66.

<sup>54</sup> Francis to J. J. O'Rourke, Dec. 14, 1896, OIA, *Int. Dept., Ind. Aff., Misc.*, vol. 99, p. 410. See also *ibid.*, p. 118.

<sup>55</sup> *The Edmond Sun Democrat*, Jan. 29, 1897. W. T. Walker relieved Baldwin and took charge of the Kiowa agency on May 16, 1898. This agency included the Wichitas.

<sup>56</sup> The Oklahoma Historical Society has been properly called “the great repository of the newspapers of Oklahoma.” The second best collection of Oklahoma newspapers is in the Library of Congress.



## NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

## RESOLUTIONS IN MEMORY OF COLONEL A. N. LEECRAFT

A short biography of one of Oklahoma's best loved citizens and public officers, Colonel Arthur Neal Leecraft, by A. H. Ferguson, appeared in *The Chronicles*, XX (December, 1943), pp. 320-24. Since then, resolutions in memory of Colonel Leecraft were passed by the First Extraordinary Session of the Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Oklahoma and by the Board of Trustees of Goodland Indian Orphanage, Goodland, Oklahoma. These resolutions were, respectively, as follows:

(1)

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6

By: Parrish, Underwood, Arms, Banks, Bullard, Cantrell, Cordray, Flanagan, Foley, Holliman, Huey, Impson, Kight, Knapp, Long, Massey, Mountcastle, Pugh, Stovall, Tate, Wallace (Grady), Weaver, and Worthington.

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND REGRET OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA OVER THE DEATH OF THEIR FRIEND AND FORMER STATE OFFICIAL, COLONEL ARTHUR NEAL LEECRAFT, DURANT, OKLAHOMA, AND EXTENDING THE HEARTFELT SYMPATHY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY AND RELATIVES OF THE DECEASED.

WHEREAS, on the 10th day of August, 1943, death claimed Colonel Arthur Neal Leecraft, former member of the House of Representatives for six Regular Sessions and three Extraordinary Sessions, a beloved public official of Bryan County and the State of Oklahoma, who served capably and unselfishly, spreading cheerfulness and kindness among the people of this great commonwealth, and

WHEREAS, members of the House are desirous of extending to the family and relatives their heartfelt sympathy during this period of bereavement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the House of Representatives of the First Extraordinary Session of the Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Oklahoma: That we hereby express our deep sorrow over the death of Colonel Arthur Neal Leecraft, and extend our sympathy and condolences to the family and relatives of the deceased.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copy of this Resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House of Representatives, to be preserved in the archives of this great State forever, and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the members of his family.

(2)

## RESOLUTION

By: Board of Trustees, Goodland Indian Orphanage,  
Goodland, Oklahoma, E. D. Miller, Superintendent.

May 11, 1944

Honorable W. E. Schooler,  
Chairman of Board of Trustees,  
Goodland Indian Orphanage.

We, your committee on Resolution to whom the matter of drawing the resolution regarding Colonel A. N. Leecraft, beg to report the following:

WHEREAS, Colonel A. N. Leecraft, of Colbert, Oklahoma, spent years of loyal and faithful services on the Board of Trustees of the Goodland Indian Orphanage, and whereas, Colonel Leecraft departed from this life on August 10, 1943, while serving on the Goodland Board of Trustees:

BE IT RESOLVED by the entire Board of Trustees of the Goodland Indian Orphanage, in annual session at Goodland, May 11, 1944, that we express our sincerest appreciation as a body for his long years of devoted and untiring efforts for the good of this Institution, and not only this Institution, but for the good of education of the State as a whole.

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Oklahoma Historical Society at the State Capitol to be made a part of the record of the achievements of this good Christian servant and friend of education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the surviving members of his immediate family to wit:

Mrs. Van Williams, Durant, Oklahoma  
Mr. Bertram Leecraft, Colbert, Oklahoma  
Mrs. Floyd Maytubby, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Mr. Donald Leecraft, Washington, D. C.

Respectfully submitted,

T. W. Hunter, Chairman,  
J. H. Belvin,  
Grady James.

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#### MEMORIAL TO JOSEPH SAMUEL MURROW—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ATOKA

The First Baptist Church of Atoka, Oklahoma, organized on May 5, 1869, has recently dedicated and erected a special plaque to the memory of its organizer and first pastor, Joseph Samuel Murrow. The *Baptist Messenger*, for April 27, 1944, published by the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, presented an article on the life of the Reverend Dr. Murrow, entitled "Atoka—The Long Shadow of a Man" by W. A. Carleton.

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#### HISTORIC MASONIC MISCELLANEA—OKLAHOMA

The following notes and excerpts from old published accounts of the work of the Masonic lodges in the Indian Territory and Oklahoma have been contributed by Mr. Clarence Brain, of Oklahoma City, who is familiar with the history of Masonry in this region of the Southwest:

- (1) An item in the *Oklahoma Star*, published at Caddo, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, on July 6th, 1876, under the head of:

#### MASONRY.

"The first lodge in the Territory was organized at old Fort Washita, some time prior to the rebellion; but it died out, and another was organized at Doakesville, which suffered a like fate. So Muskogee Lodge, No. 1, Eu-  
faula, Creek Nation, has the honor of being the oldest Lodge in Oklahoma."

Brothers Granville McPherson, the first Grand Master, and E. C. Boudinot were the editors of this paper. Mrs. L. S. McPherson, the wife of Brother McPherson is the author of the article. Fort Washita was about twelve miles north-west of the present town of Durant and not much further from Caddo where Brother McPherson lived. He had been an associate of Albert Pike at Little Rock and was active, in fact the leader, in the for-

mation of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory. He, of course, knew of the old Lodges at Tahlequah and Flint as well Muscogee Lodge at Eufaula and it is curious that this item should have appeared in his paper; especially so since M. W. Brother Nat G. Smith, Grand Master, reported to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas on November 5th, 1856, that he had granted a dispensation to form and hold Chickasaw Lodge at Fort Washita in the Chickasaw Nation. The names of the brethren asking for this dispensation are now lost but they paid the fee for the dispensation. The Lodge was never Chartered.

Fort Washita was established in 1843 and soon became an important military post. Its location was selected by General Zachary Taylor, afterward President. After the Mexican War and during the gold rush to California it became a very busy place, being a station on the Butterfield Stage Line to California. It may be that research will reveal an earlier lodge at this place. It was in the hands of the Confederates during the War between the States and many southern sympathisers among the Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles found refuge there for their families. There is nothing at the site of the Fort now excepting the ruins of a few stone chimneys and an old cemetery.

(2) An item in the "Local News" column of *The Cherokee Advocate*, published at Tahlequah on April 22nd, 1876:

"The old members of Cherokee Lodge, No. 21, A. Y. M., also all other Masons living in this Masonic Jurisdiction are requested to meet together on Saturday the 29th inst., for the purpose of making arrangements for organizing a new lodge of A. Y. M. in this place.

H. D. Reese,  
P. M. of Cherokee Lodge, No. 21,  
Tahlequah, April 14th, 1876.

The unusual initials, A. Y. M., mean Ancient York Masons. Brother Reese was Superintendent of Education for the Cherokee Nation and an active and enthusiastic Mason in the old Lodge as well as the new one to be formed in answer to this request.

Grand Master McPherson granted his dispensation to Brother Reese and twenty-four others on April 24th, 1877, for a Lodge at Tahlequah to be known as Cherokee Lodge. It was chartered by the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in the same year as Lodge No. 10 and Brother Reese became its first Master. Saint John's Day was celebrated by the Lodge on June 24th, 1878, the Rev. L. Dobson delivering the address.

(3) Quoted extracts from a story printed in *The Daily Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City, September 15th, 1925:

"The Cherokee National Council, at its regular annual session, in the autumn of 1852 passed the following act:

"Be it enacted by the National Council; that lots 5 and 6 of Square No, 19, in the town of Tahlequah, be and they are hereby donated to the Cherokee Lodge of Masons and the division of the Sons of Temperance now in existence in this place, for the purpose of erecting thereon a Lodge building to be held and owned by them and their successors through such a board of trustees as they may from time to time appoint; provided that said building shall be erected within two years of the date of this act; otherwise the grant hereby made shall be null and void.

"Tahlequah, October 30, 1852.

John Ross."

This, the first Masonic Hall erected in the Indian Territory or in the present State of Oklahoma, was a two-story frame building standing just off of the main street in Tahlequah. The lower story was used for church services and public meetings while the upper served the Masons and Sons of Temperance. It was torn down a few years ago and the site is now vacant. John Ross, who signed this Act, was a member of a Masonic Lodge



in Washington City. He was principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation for forty years and was of Scotch ancestry.

(4) "The bell that was in use by the Masons during many years is the oldest in Oklahoma. It was the same bell which was once hung in front of the Mission and Church of the old Dwight Mission. So long ago as 1832, when a minister from an eastern State journeyed through the forests on his way to the Mission, his heart was gladdened when he heard the tones of the bell at some distance away. Just how the old bell came into the possession of the Masonic Lodge at Tahlequah, no one seems to know, but that it was in use in the days of the Rev. Cephas Washburn, pioneer missionary to the Western Cherokees, and in the times of Dr. Buttrick, Revs. Elizer Butler and Worcester Willey, there is no doubt."

This bell and other priceless relics of the time Freemasonry came to the Indian Territory are still in the possession of Cherokee Lodge No. 10, of Tahlequah.

(5) "One of the first burials made with Masonic Ceremonies of a member of the old Lodge was early in the fifties when George W. Lavender died after a brief illness."

Brother Lavender appears on the roster of Cherokee Lodge, No. 21, in 1850 and 1851.

(6) "During the many years of the existence of the Masonic Lodge at this place (Tahlequah) there have been quite a number of full blood Cherokee members. It has been said that the Cherokees, because of the fact that they have had during many generations secret societies of their own, take more than ordinary interest in the mysteries of the Masonic order. Although there have been occasions where the services of interpreters were necessary in order that the instructions might be made clear, the full-blood initiates became proficient and worthy members of the ancient Order. Some of them were leaders among their people, both in public and private capacities. Among the full-blood Cherokees were a number of skilled artisans and workers in metals, and several of the solid silver jewels of the old lodge are said to have been made by full-blood members. These old jewels are among the most highly prized possessions of Cherokee Lodge, No. 10, A. F. & A. M."

(7) An item in the *Cherokee Advocate*, published at Tahlequah on April 16th, 1904:

"In 1886 General Albert Pike conferred the Thirty-Second Degree on the Chiefs of the four Nations, the candidates being:

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| General Pleasant Porter, | Creek.      |
| Peter Pitchlynn,         | Choctaw.    |
| Elias C. Boudinot,       | Cherokee.   |
| Holmes Colbert, Sr.,     | Chickasaw." |

Pleasant Porter was born in 1840 and died in 1907, Pitchlynn, 1806-1881. Boudinot, 1835-1890, and Colbert, 1829-1872. Each was, in fact, a leader or chief of his Nation, and three, at least, were Masons. Porter was a member of Muskogee (Eufaula) Lodge, No. 1, in 1878 and of Muskogee Lodge, (Muskogee) No. 28, at its organization in 1888. Pitchlynn was probably made a mason much earlier and possibly in Washington City. He received the Order of the Temple in Washington Commandery, No. 1, of that place, on May 27th, 1854. Boudinot was a member of Flint Lodge, No. 74, (Arkansas) in 1861. Colbert's name does not appear in the early rosters but other members of his family were Masons and it may be that he was a member of the old Lodge at Doakesville (Choctaw, No. 52) or of some Lodge in North Texas or Washington City.

It is obvious that the Thirty-Second Degree could not have been conferred upon Pitchlynn and Colbert in 1886. Brother Pike visited Muskogee in 1878 and 1879 and doubtless did communicate the Scottish Rite to prominent brethren but, if he did, the record is not available. A memorial to Brother George W. Stidham, who died in 1891, says that he received the

Thirty-Second Degree in 1884 from Brother Pike, himself. Brother Robert W. Hill communicated the Scottish Rite Degrees, 4-14, to Brothers Patrick J. Byrne, Leo Bennett, Clarence Turner, J. S. Murrow, James S. Stapler, Robert Ross, Robert C. Owen (sic), Henry C. Hall and Edmond H. Doyle at Muskogee on February 22nd, 1889, but no local record known to the writer shows the four eminent Indian brethren named above to have received the degrees from Brother Pike.

Brother Pitchlynn was associated with Brother Pike in the affairs of the Choctaw Nation for many years beginning about 1853. It is said that his funeral service in Washington was conducted by Pike and from other facts it seems probable that he did belong to the Scottish Rite.

There is in the possession of the writer a copy of Pike's "Magnum Opus" or his first revision of the rituals of the Scottish Rite which he gave to Brother Granville McPherson, the first Grand Master of the Indian Territory, at Little Rock "on Tuesday Night, December 14th, 1858. Brother McPherson gave it to Peter Pitchlynn at Armstrong Academy on October 6th, 1865. Inasmuch as McPherson was a Scottish Rite Mason it seems certain that Pitchlynn must also have been such as early as 1865. The following inscription, in Brother McPherson's handwriting appears in the books:

"Armstrong Academy, C. N.  
October 6th, 1865.

"In consideration of the esteem and veneration in which I hold Col. P. P. Pitchlynn, Principal Chief Choctaw Nation, I respectfully present him with this book—knowing the truly Masonic virtues herein contained will be as highly appreciated by him as they have been by myself.

"Granville McPherson."

There are two photographs of Brother Pitchlynn inserted in the book; one, the young man whom Catlin and Dickens met and admired, the other, in his last days at Washington where he is buried in the Congressional Cemetery.

(8) The Sword of Colonel Bowles, a Cherokee Chief, now in the possession of Cherokee Lodge, No. 10, at Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the Cherokee Indians were divided into two groups: the Eastern Cherokees, the largest group, still living in their ancient homelands in the Southeastern States (North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee); and the Western Cherokees living west of the Mississippi River in the Ozark Mountains and along the Arkansas River within the borders of the present State of Arkansas.

The Western Cherokees had moved west and settled on the St. Francis River north of the Arkansas, in 1794. Their chief and leader, Colonel Bowles, was born in 1754, probably in North Carolina, the son of a Scotch-Irish trader and his Cherokee wife.

In the winter of 1819-1820, Colonel Bowles (sometimes referred to as "The Bowl") led a party of the Western Cherokees to the vicinity of what is now Smith and Van Zandt counties, Texas, and entered into an agreement with the government of Mexico for the occupancy of the land in this region. Two months before the Battle of San Jacinto (April 21, 1836), Sam Houston, John Forbes and John Cameron entered into a treaty with these Cherokees on behalf of Texas which had not yet achieved its independence, confirming the Indian occupancy of the land. The following statement is quoted from the article, "The Last of the Cherokees in Texas," by Albert Woldert, M.D., of Tyler, Texas, published in *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, I (June, 1923), p. 185: "Whether or not it was at this conference (February 23, 1836) or at a later date General Sam Houston, probably as a testimonial of his good will, presented Chief Bowles a military hat, a silk vest, a handsome sash, and handsome sword."



In the fall of 1938 some white families were wiped out, presumably by the Cherokees, and the government of Texas determined to drive them from the Republic which also had reason to believe that the Cherokees were in communication with the Mexican government. A battle was fought on July 15th and 16th, 1839, a few miles west of the present town of Tyler in which Chief Bowles was killed and the Cherokees withdrew from the Republic of Texas. The following statements are also herewith quoted from Doctor Woldert's article (*Chronicles of Oklahoma*, op. cit., pp. 223-24), which gives the subsequent history and a description of "Bowles Sword":

"When Bowles was slain upon the battlefield of July 16th, 1836, (1839) his sword was awarded to Capt. Robert W. Smith on the same day, and Smith afterwards turned this sword over to Clinton Lodge, No. 23, A. F. & A. M., of Henderson, Texas, where it was used as the Tyler's sword of that lodge. Afterwards this sword was loaned or presented to Colonel James H. Jones of Henderson, Texas, who carried it with him through the Civil War, and who later returned it to the lodge at Henderson from whom it had been obtained. About the year 1890, or 1891, this sword was presented to Judge Will H. Barker of Oklahoma, to be turned over to the Cherokee Nation, the capitol of which in 1890 and 1891 was Tahlequah.

"After receiving the sword Judge Barker who was then speaker of the lower house of the Cherokee legislative council, presented the sword to the Cherokee Nation, his eloquent oration being printed in both the English and Cherokee languages. The sword was subsequently placed in the archives of the Cherokee Nation, probably Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

"A description of Bowles' sword has been given me by John Arnold, Esq., and Dr. W. P. White of Henderson, Texas, as follows: The sword of Bowles was made of steel and was about three feet and two or three inches in length, the blade being dull and about one and one quarter inches in width. It was not a double-edged sword, the back of blade being thickened. The point of the sword was dull and had a long tapering tip or curve to it. The hilt of the sword was made of brass with a brass shield of about three inches in length, the hilt of the sword being somewhat enlarged inside of the shield so the hand could grasp it more tightly.

"There were no inscriptions or decorations on the sword. It was a military sword, and somewhat tarnished by age."

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#### RECENT ACQUISITION IN THE LIBRARY

To the Secretary  
Oklahoma Historical Society  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The Library is gathering a fine collection of old and new maps. Thirty five maps have been purchased recently, filling in the present collection and covering the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma between the years of 1816 to 1896. These give location of old forts, trails and the development of county boundaries in the foregoing states.

Hazel E. Beaty, Librarian

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#### LISTS OF NAMES FOR RECORDS OKLAHOMA WAR MEMORIAL

The Editorial Department wishes to express appreciation and make acknowledgements for special lists of names of men from Oklahoma who have died in the war service and the names and addresses



of their nearest of kin received recently from the following friends of the Historical Society: Glenn W. Nolle, Department Service Officer, American Legion of Oklahoma, Historical Society building, Oklahoma City; Norah L. Francis, Librarian, Carnegie Library, Elk City; M. H. Derdeyn, Acting Director Community Service, Osage Indian Agency, Pawhuska; Mrs. Edna White Moreland, National President, Army Mothers Club of America, Tulsa; John C. Hamilton, Captain, U.S.A. Ret'd, President of Oklahoma Military Academy; Mrs. L. K. Meek, Ponca City; O. E. Null, Arnett; Dr. Fred S. Clinton, F.R.S.C., 230 East Woodward Blvd., Tulsa.

Special memorial editions by the following publishers have been received for the Oklahoma War Memorial and filed in the Editorial Department:

| CITY AND COUNTY            | PAPER                                                    | PUBLISHER                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Altus, Jackson County—     | <i>The Altus Times-Democrat</i> (Service Men's Edition)— | Harrington Wimberly, Publisher |
| Eldorado, Jackson County—  | <i>Victory Edition</i> —                                 | The Eldorado Courier           |
| Goodland, Choctaw County—  | <i>The Indian Arrow</i> —                                | Goodland Indian Orphanage      |
| Guthrie, Logan County—     | <i>Logan County Honor Roll Edition</i> —                 | Guthrie-Register News          |
| Muskogee, Muskogee County— | <i>Eastern Oklahoma At War—Special Edition</i>           | —Muskogee Daily Phoenix        |
| Perry, Noble County—       | <i>Noble Countians (Directory of)</i> —                  | The Perry Daily Journal        |
| Norman, Cleveland County—  | <i>1943 Progress and Service Men's Edition</i>           | —The Norman Transcript         |

#### MILITARY CAMP PAPERS RECEIVED BY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Through special requests by James W. Moffitt, Secretary, the following military field papers from Oklahoma and elsewhere are now being received by the Oklahoma Historical Society. These papers will be eventually bound and filed as a part of the permanent records of World War II, in the Historical Society.

| CITY                  | PAPER                          | LOCATION                                                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Altus, Okla.—         | <i>Twin Spinner</i> —          | Altus Army Air Field                                        |
| Ardmore, Okla.—       | <i>Bombs Away</i> —            | Combatant Training School                                   |
| Chickasha, Okla.—     | <i>The Borden News</i> —       | Borden General Hospital                                     |
| Enid, Okla.—          | <i>The Enidair</i> —           | Enid Army Air Field                                         |
| Frederick, Okla.—     | <i>Sandstorm</i> —             | Frederick Army Air Field                                    |
| Norman, Okla.—        | <i>The Alert</i> —             | Primary Gunnery Training Department, Naval Training Center. |
| Norman, Okla.—        | <i>The Bull Horn</i> —         | Naval Air Technical Training Center                         |
| Okmulgee, Okla.—      | <i>Glen Echo</i> —             | Glennan General Hospital                                    |
| Oklahoma City, Okla.— | <i>Headlines</i> —             | Will Rogers Field                                           |
| Oklahoma City, Okla.— | <i>The Sooner Recruiter</i> —  | United States Navy Recruiting Station                       |
| Oklahoma City.—       | <i>Take Off</i> —              | Air Service Command.                                        |
|                       |                                | Oklahoma City, <i>Take-Off</i> .....Tinker Field            |
| Fort Sill, Okla.—     | <i>Fort Sill Army News</i> —   | Fort Sill                                                   |
| London, England—      | <i>The Stars and Stripes</i> — | London and New York, U. S. Army and Navy.                   |

## NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED BY OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. James W. Moffit, Editor of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*.

I present herewith a list of newspapers which are received at the present time by the Oklahoma Historical Society in exchange for *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, with the names of the editors of the papers.

We deeply appreciate the interest and co-operation of the editors in sending their newspapers to the Historical Society, particularly during this period of newsprint and labor shortage. It is a splendid service to our patrons.

We are most grateful to Mr. Robert V. Peterson, President of the Oklahoma Press Association, and to Mr. Vernon T. Sanford, Secretary-Manager of the Oklahoma Press Association, and Editor of the Oklahoma Publisher for urging the editors to continue sending their papers to the Oklahoma Historical Society where "They are housed in a fireproof building, and where they are used as a reference library for writers and scholars from many states, who wish to do research in Oklahoma," to quote them.

Our bound volumes, over twenty thousand in number, are filed alphabetically and chronologically in steel cases according to the towns in which they are published, making them accessible to researchers. We have approximately one million index cards of newspapers which are valuable in facilitating research.

Laura M. Messenbaugh, Curator,  
Newspaper Department,  
Oklahoma Historical Society.

## OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPERS

|                                                  |                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Ada, <i>The Ada Daily News</i> .....W. D. Little | Bartlesville, <i>The Enterprise</i> .....N. D. Welty |
| <i>The Ada Weekly</i> .....W. D. Little          | <i>Bartlesville News</i> .....Karl Rupard            |
| <i>Ada Bulletin</i> .....Clifford Smith          | <i>Beaver Herald Democrat</i> .....H. H. Hubbard     |
| <i>Afton American</i> .....Owen Harrison         | <i>Beggs Independent</i> .....Olin Perkins           |
| <i>Aline Chroroscope</i> .....G. O. Fields       | <i>Bennington Journal</i> .....H. Dyer               |
| <i>Altus Daily Times Democrat</i> ..             | <i>Bethany Tribune</i> .....C. M. Mansfield          |
| Harrington Wimberly                              | <i>Billings News</i> .....A. M. Miller               |
| <i>Alva Review-Courier</i> .....Bob Lee Kidd     | <i>Binger Journal</i> .....J. H. Sellars             |
| <i>Anadarko Daily News</i> .....Joe McBride      | <i>Blackwell Journal-Tribune</i>                     |
| <i>Anadarko Tribune</i> .....Roy Young           | Phil McMullen                                        |
| <i>Antlers American</i> .....Paul Stewart        | <i>Boise City News</i> .....Fred H. Kreiger          |
| <i>Apache Review</i> .....Hamilton Nation        | <i>Boynton Index</i> .....Isaiah Kirbey              |
| <i>Arapaho Bee</i> .....Dick Mitchell            | <i>Bristow Record</i> .....L. M. Nichols             |
| <i>Ardmore, The Daily Ardmoreite</i>             | <i>Britton Progress</i> .....Lewis Dawson            |
| Ernest Reisen                                    | <i>Broken Arrow Ledger</i> .....Paul F. Miller       |
| <i>Arnett Capital</i> .....Lee I. Seward         | <i>Broken Bow</i> .....S. A. Hamilton, Jr.           |
| <i>Atoka, Indian Citizen-Democrat</i>            | <i>Buffalo Journal</i> .....S. E. Lee                |
| B. R. Cook                                       | <i>Butler Herald</i> .....James G. Butler            |
| <i>Barnsdall Times</i> .....A. L. Moore          | <i>Caddo Herald</i> .....G. A. Crossett              |
| <i>Bartlesville Examiner</i> .....N. D. Welty    | <i>Canton Record</i> .....B. H. Burnham              |

- Carmen Headlight* .....Max C. Herschberger  
*Carnegie Herald* .....B. W. Jolly  
*Cement Field News* .....O. H. Jackson  
*Chandler News-Publicist*.....Mrs. W. L. Igo  
*Chandler Republican* .....Fred Nichols  
*Checotah Democrat* .....John Buford  
*Chelsea Reporter* .....A. J. Herring  
*Cherokee Messenger* .....C. O. Doggett  
*Cherokee Republican* .....C. O. Doggett  
*Cheyenne Star* .....John C. Casady  
*Chickasha Daily Express* .....Dave Vandevier  
*Chickasha Star* .....J. W. Kayser  
*Choteau Enterprise* .....Dick Elam  
*Claremore Messenger* .....W. R. Kinney  
*Claremore Progress* .....Harry Kates  
*Cleveland American* .....R. H. Breeden  
*Clinton Daily News* .....Chas. Engleman  
*Coalgate Courier* .....J. E. T. Clark  
*Collinsville News* .....C. H. Wright  
*Comanche News* .....Earl C. Garey  
*Cordell Beacon* .....Burris G. Penn  
*Corn Enterprise* .....J. E. Heinrichs  
*Covington Record* .....R. F. Kirkpatrick  
*Coweta Times Star* .....J. J. Woolman  
*Crescent News* .....Forrest Scrivener  
*Cushing Weekly Citizen* ....O. H. Lachenmeyer  
*Custer Courier* .....Neal Veatch  
*Cyril Courier* .....H. P. Wettengel  
*Davis News* .....Fay L. Crossett  
*Dewey, The Washington Countian* .....A. L. Moore  
*Drumright Derrick* .....Lou S. Allard  
*Drumright Journal* .....Gordan Rockett  
*Duncan Eagle* .....Jack Laughlin  
*Durant News* .....L. S. Evans  
*Edmond, The Enterprise* ..D. W. Banzette  
*Edmond, The Booster* .....D. W. Banzette  
*Edmond Sun* .....Nelson McGowan  
*Eldorado Courier* .....V. H. Guy  
*Elk City Journal* .....W. G. Smith  
*Elk City Daily News* .....Paul Wade  
*El Reno American* .....Nichols & Woods  
*El Reno Daily Tribune*.....Ray J. Dyer  
*Enid, Garfield County News*..L. S. Corey  
*Enid, Eagle and News*.....Wm. H. Taylor  
*Enid Events* .....Everett Purcell  
*Eufaula, The Indian Journal* .....R. B. Buford  
*Fairfax Chief* .....L. W. Evans  
*Fairland News Herald*.....Ernest Hubbard  
*Fairview Republican* .....Frank Bernatt  
*Fairview News* .....M. D. Townley  
*Fletcher Herald* .....H. P. Wettengel  
*Forgan Advocate* .....H. H. Hubbart  
*Fort Cobb Express* .....George H. Wingo  
*Frederick Press* .....R. H. Wessel  
*Geary Star* .....U. H. Warner  
*Geary Times-Journal* .....N. H. Seger  
*Gould Democrat* .....John C. Anglund  
*Grandfield Enterprise* ....H. N. Patterson  
*Granite Enterprise* .....Charles E. Hill  
*Grove Sun* .....O. E. Butler  
*Guthrie Daily Leader* .....Leader Publishing Company  
*Guthrie Register-News* .....Curtis and J. M. Dolph  
*Guymon News-Herald* ....Giles E. Miller  
*Harrah Herald* .....L. S. Anderson  
*Hartshorne Sun* .....E. J. Thrower  
*Haskell News* .....R. S. Pennington  
*Healdton Herald* .....Jno. F. Gelder  
*Helena Star* .....G. T. Newby  
*Hennessy Clipper* .....Tiernay & Walker  
*Henryetta Free Lance* .....Olin Perkins  
*Hinton Record* .....Arthur Wettengel  
*Hobart Democrat Chief* .....J. C. Nance, Jr.  
*Hobart Star-Review*.....Raymond E. Forbes  
*Holdenville News* .....Tom R. Phillips  
*Hollis News* .....R. F. Dudley  
*Hollis, Post-Herald and Leader* .....J. W. White  
*Hominy News* .....W. S. Hinkel  
*Hooker Advance* .....J. H. Shields  
*Hugo, Daily News* .....W. E. Schooler  
*Hydro Review* .....J. E. Herndon  
*Idabel Gazette* .....Guy R. Old  
*Jay Journal* .....Ray Pentacost  
*Jenks Times* .....  
*Jones News* .....Chester A. Keyes  
*Kaw City News* .....Mrs. Paul Krebs  
*Kingfisher, Times and Free Press* .....Hubbard & Hubbard  
*Konawa Leader* .....Colonel LaMunyon  
*Laverne, Leader-Tribune* ....Leslie I. Ray  
*Lawton Constitution* .....Ned Shepler  
*Lawton, News-Review* ..Mrs. Ida Mae Rice  
*Lawton Press* .....Homer Hedges  
*Lawton, Ft. Sill Army News* .....C. J. Bergman  
*Leedey Star* .....Myrtle Gale  
*Lexington Rural News*.....Mrs. Sam Burns  
*Lindsay News* .....Willis F. Allen, Jr.  
*Luther Register* .....Chester A. Keyes  
*McAlester News-Capital* ..Fred G. Cowles  
*McAlester Democrat* .....Hiram Impson  
*Madill Record* .....Herbert J. Pate  
*Mangum Star* .....Carroll Elliott  
*Marietta Monitor* .....Willis Choate  
*Marlow Review* .....Sam'l G. Whitaker



- Maud Monitor and Enterprise* ..... John W. Hoffman  
*Maysville News* ..... W. E. Showen  
*Medford Patriot-Star* ..... J. C. Pond  
*Medford, Grant County Journal* ..... Philip R. Pond  
*Meeker Herald* ..... Mrs. Chas. Wolf  
*Miami News Record* ..... C. M. Bartlett  
*Minco Minstrel* ..... W. A. Vandament  
*Morrison Transcript* ..... F. G. Logan  
*Mountain View Times* ..... Raymond E. Forbes  
*Muskogee Phoenix* ..... Tams Bixby  
*Muskogee Times Democrat* ..... Tams Bixby  
*Newkirk Reporter* ..... Hamlin Brothers  
*Newkirk, Herald-Journal* ..... W. D. Hamlin  
*Norman Transcript* ..... Fred Tarman  
*Norman, Oklahoma Daily* ..... C. H. Brite  
*Norman, Sooner State Press* ..... Grace E. Ray  
*Nowata Star* ..... Ralph E. Staffelbach  
*Nowata Star-Times* ..... Ralph E. Staffelbach  
*Okarche Chieftain* ..... P. B. Watrus  
*Okeene Record* ..... A. C. Martz  
*Okemah Leader* ..... Glenn Strong  
*Oklahoma City Times* ..... E. K. Gaylord  
*Oklahoma City, Daily Oklahoman* ..... E. K. Gaylord  
*Oklahoma City, Farmer-Stockman* ..... Ferdie Deering  
*Oklahoma City, General Welfare Reporter* ..... Ira Finley  
*Oklahoma City Advertiser* ..... O. L. Crain  
*Oklahoma City, The Publisher* ..... Vernon T. Sanford  
*Oklahoma City, Take-Off* ..... Tinker Field  
*Oklahoma City, News-Review* ..... W. B. Oliverson  
*Oklahoma City, Capitol Beacon* ..... Errol Austin  
*Oklahoma City, Union Farmer* ..... Tom W. Cheek  
*Oklahoma City, Southwest Courier* ..... J. J. Quinn  
*Oklahoma City, Black Dispatch* ..... Roscoe Dungee  
*Okmulgee Times* ..... Joe Croom  
*Okmulgee Record* ..... Bert Hodges  
*Pauls Valley Democrat* ..... Jesse Alexander  
*Pauls Valley Enterprise* ..... Payne & Turner  
*Pawhuska News* ..... Chas. E. Prentice  
*Pawhuska, Journal-Capital* ..... Roland Blanc  
*Pawnee Courier* ..... W. F. Allen  
*Pawnee Dispatch* ..... W. F. Allen  
*Pawnee Chief* ..... Jo Ferguson  
*Perry Journal* ..... W. K. Leatherock  
*Picher, Tri-State Tribune* ..... M. L. Post  
*Ponca City News* ..... Clyde Muchmore  
*Ponca City Star* ..... Cecil DeVillers  
*Pond Creek Herald* ..... W. T. Childs  
*Poteau News* ..... B. J. McCausey  
*Pryor Democrat* ..... Dick Elam  
*Pryor Jeffersonian* ..... Jack Butler  
*Pryor, Choteau Enterprise* .....  
*Pryor, Times-Herald* .....  
*Purcell Register* ..... J. C. Nance  
*Putnam City, News Review* .....  
*Rush Springs Gazette* ..... Bill McWilliams  
*Ryan Leader* ..... J. T. Daniel  
*Sallisaw, Democrat American* ..... Harrill Rockett  
*Sallisaw Times* ..... Wheeler Mayo  
*Sapulpa Herald* .....  
*Sapulpa, Democrat News* ..... Ray W. Gierhart  
*Sayre, Headlight Journal* ..... W. J. Bacon  
*Sayre Sun* ..... C. C. Cornels  
*Seminole News* ..... Jas. T. Jackson  
*Sentinel Leader* ..... Foster Cain  
*Shattuck, Northwest Oklahoman* ..... C. C. Colbert  
*Shawnee, County Democrat* ..... M. M. Henderson  
*Shawnee Herald* ..... Clyde M. Robinson  
*Shidler Review* ..... Frank S. Nipper  
*Skiatook News* ..... Mrs. Elsa R. Miller  
*Snyder Democrat* ..... Henry Martin  
*Soper Democrat* ..... R. E. Crossett  
*Stigler News-Sentinel* ..... Roy Curtis  
*Stigler Tribune* ..... Ray Bankhead  
*Stillwater News* ..... C. R. Bellatti  
*Stillwater Gazette* .....  
*Stratford Star* ..... Arthur B. Tenney  
*Tahlequah Democrat-Star* ..... Harrill Rockett  
*Tahlequah Citizen* ..... Mrs. Wilma Comfort  
*Taloga Times-Advocate* ..... Tom Ruble  
*Texhoma Times* ..... J. D. Divine  
*Thomas Tribune* ..... P. E. D. Underwood  
*Tipton Tribune* ..... C. A. Holding  
*Tishomingo, Capital Democrat* ..... Fountain Brower  
*Tonkawa News* ..... N. W. Taylor  
*Tulsa, Tulsa Daily World* ..... Eugene Lorton  
*Tulsa, Tulsa Tribune* ..... R. H. Jones  
*Tuttle Times* ..... W. A. Vandament  
*Tyrone Observer* ..... J. S. Maynard  
*Valliant Record* ..... J. C. Oliver  
*Verden News* ..... O. H. Jackson  
*Vinita Journal-Leader* ..... O. B. Campbell  
*Vinita Star* ..... H. E. Averill  
*Vinita Democrat* ..... H. E. Averill  
*Wagoner Record-Democrat* ..... Jim Biggerstaff

|                                 |                     |                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Wagoner Tribune</i> .....    | Phil Harris         | <i>Wellston News</i> .....      | O. H. Coxen       |
| <i>Wakita Herald</i> .....      | F. W. Bailey        | <i>Westville Record</i> .....   | Mrs. Dean Sebring |
| <i>Walters Herald</i> .....     | John Penn           | <i>Wetumka Gazette</i> .....    | T. R. Keith       |
| <i>Wanette News</i> .....       | E. Foster Atkinson  | <i>Wewoka Times Democrat</i>    |                   |
| <i>Watonga Republican</i> ..... | A. Leslie Chambers  |                                 | R. V. Peterson    |
| <i>Waukomis Hornet</i> .....    | Miss Ethel Robinson | <i>Wilburton, News Democrat</i> |                   |
| <i>Waurika News-Democrat</i>    |                     |                                 | Floyd Michie      |
|                                 | Storms & Morrison   | <i>Woodward Journal</i> .....   | J. C. Hopkins     |
| <i>Waynoka Enterprise</i> ..... | Louise Fischer      | <i>Woodward Press</i> .....     | Clark Lawrence    |
| <i>Weatherford News</i> .....   | Jas. T. Craddock    | <i>Wynnewood Gazette</i> .....  | J. N. Squiers     |
| <i>Welch Watchman</i> .....     | Scott Thompson      | <i>Yale Record</i> .....        | Ira B. Minnick    |
| <i>Weleetka American</i> .....  | E. A. Gaston        | <i>Yukon Sun</i> .....          | P. B. Vandament   |

## OUT OF STATE NEWSPAPERS

|                                                                          |                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>New York Times</i> .....                                              | Arthur Hays Sulzberger |
| <i>Wichita Morning Eagle</i> .....                                       | Victor Murdock         |
| <i>Wichita Evening Eagle</i> .....                                       | Victor Murdock         |
| <i>Amarillo Daily News</i> .....                                         | Gene Howe              |
| <i>The Stars and Stripes</i> , London and New York, U. S. Army and Navy. |                        |







THOMAS MAYBERRY RANDOLPH

## NECROLOGIES

### THOMAS MAYBERRY RANDOLPH

1873-1943

Thomas Mayberry Randolph, son of Holland Coffey Randolph and Marie Lanham Randolph, was born in Grayson County, Texas, April 18, 1873, and died at Marietta, Oklahoma, September 9, 1943. He moved with his parents to the Chickasaw Nation February 2, 1874, and remained a continuous resident of the Indian Territory and later the State of Oklahoma until the day of his death.

His marriage to Mrs. Nellie Love Hill, daughter of Judge Overton (Sobe) Love of the Chickasaw Nation, in 1899, united two of the oldest families in Indian Territory and North Texas. Mr. Randolph is survived by his wife, five children, and fourteen grandchildren. His children are Mrs. William Lucas, Gainesville, Texas; Mrs. Jack Wilson, Marietta, Oklahoma; Mrs. John Anderson, McAlester, Oklahoma; and two sons, Sobe Love Randolph, of Marietta, and Thomas Mayberry Randolph who is now serving in the armed forces in Italy.

James Mayberry Randolph, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1802, the son of Isham Randolph of Roanoke, Virginia, who moved with his wife and children to McMinnville, Tennessee, early in the 19th century and there reared his family. In 1835, three young friends and adventurers, Holland Coffey, Silas Colville and James Mayberry Randolph, came west to Van Buren, Arkansas. The latter married Tabitha Shelton and continued his residence in Van Buren while Holland Coffey and Silas Colville moved to North Texas. Having been persuaded to move west by Holland Coffey, after the death of Silas Colville, James M. Randolph settled with his family in Grayson County, in 1844, while Texas was still a Republic. When his third son was born in 1845, he named him "Holland Coffey" after his old friend. James M. Randolph was elected the first sheriff of Grayson County, Texas, in 1846. His commission signed by the first Governor of Texas and attested by the Secretary of State will be presented to Grayson County at an early date by his descendants. He died in 1847, leaving a wife and five children, —Catherine, Elizabeth, William Colville, George Wirt, and Holland Coffey Randolph.

Judge Overton Love, the father of Mrs. Thomas Mayberry Randolph (nee Nellie Love), was the son of Henry Love whose father, Thomas Love, was an Irish Tory refugee who came to the Chickasaw Nation in Northern Mississippi soon after the American Revolution. He married a Chickasaw Indian and their three sons, Henry, Ben, and Isaac, were prominent in Chickasaw national affairs. They served as delegates to Washington and elsewhere while negotiations were in progress for the sale of Chickasaw lands in Mississippi. The names of all three were among the signers of the Treaty of Pontotoc in 1832, conferring the sale. Judge Overton Love, the son of Henry Love, and a member of the Chickasaw Nation moved with his family to the Indian Territory in 1844. Some years later before the Civil War, he settled in what is known as Love's Valley, now in Love County, Oklahoma. Judge Love served as a member of the Supreme Court of the Chickasaw Nation and always took an active interest in Chickasaw affairs. As the years passed, he became a man of wealth and influence in the Indian Territory, Love County being named for him in appreciation, by the delegate from his district in the Constitutional Convention for the future State of Oklahoma.



The family records of the Randolphs and the Loves are a part of Oklahoma's history. It was the character of pioneer men and women, both among the Indians and the white settlers that enabled them to brave life on the frontier and to establish schools, churches, towns, and farms in the wilderness of the Indian Territory and North Texas one hundred years ago, and has enabled their descendants and others who came later to create so quickly the progressive States of Oklahoma and Texas.

Thomas Mayberry Randolph, the subject of this sketch, was a man of high honor and integrity. He lived his life of three score years and ten true to the traditions of his ancestors. A prosperous rancher during most of his life, he also had other interests in oil and in land in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas. He was prominent in public affairs in southern Oklahoma in early days. Believing in good government and in the selection of the right men to govern, he always took an active interest in local and State politics. He was a Mason, an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, and a member of the Methodist Church.

Mayberry Randolph, the name by which he was best known among his friends, was Christ's definition of a Christian, for throughout his life, he gave of his substance to those in need who passed his way. Many persons owed him money and some never paid but his innate nobility prevented his ever reminding them of their obligations. Mayberry Randolph was too generous for his own financial gain, but who can measure his spiritual reward?

So has passed a true son of the old frontier, a descendant of a proud colonial family who settled in Virginia three hundred years ago, a man whose epitaph should read "One of God's noblemen."

By Jessie R. Moore

*Oklahoma City*

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### JOSEPH PATRICK O'BRIEN 1887-1943

Joe O'Brien (christened Edward Joseph—Confirmation name Patrick) was youngest of four children, born to Patrick and Brigid Higgins O'Brien, on August 13, 1887, in Clark County, near Winchester, Kentucky, and died on October 5, 1943 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; interment in Rose Hill Cemetery. Other children of that union were James who died in infancy, Margaret O'Brien Stewart, Lexington, Kentucky, and Thomas B. O'Brien, Amarillo, Texas.

Patrick O'Brien, father of Joe O'Brien, was born in Limerick, Ireland, on August 15, 1828, and died in Winchester, Kentucky, on June 11, 1894. Parents of the said Patrick O'Brien, born in Limerick, Ireland, were Thomas and Mary O'Brien, who was of same family name but no relationship to her said husband. This marriage united two of the oldest families in Ireland, known for their patriotism and loyalty and ready response to call of duty.

Thomas O'Brien, the grandfather, and whose wife was the said Mary O'Brien, died in Limerick in 1836 or 1837, where he was buried. Their daughter, Margaret, who died in childhood, is also buried in Limerick. Other children of the union of the said grandparents were Thomas, James, Katherine and Johanna.

In the decade immediately preceding the War Between the States, the said Mary O'Brien and her five children came to the United States, locating in Clark County, Kentucky, and lived to the age of 96 and is buried in Calvary Cemetery, Lexington, Kentucky.





JOSEPH PATRICK O'BRIEN





The said Brigid Higgins O'Brien, the youngest of six children, was born November 11, 1855 to Michael O'Brien and his wife, Brigid Higgins, nee Moran, at Boyle, County Roscommon, Ireland, and died December 13, 1920 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Other children of this union of Michael O'Brien and his wife, Brigid Higgins O'Brien, nee Moran, were Michael, Thomas, Patrick, Anne, and Margaret who died in childhood. The said Brigid Higgins O'Brien and her daughter, Brigid, came to America in 1879 following the death of her husband, Michael, who is buried in the family burying ground at Killarght, three or four miles from the town of Boyle, Roscommon County, Ireland. She died a few years after coming to America, at the home of her daughter, Anne Burke, and is buried in Paris, Kentucky.

Joseph Patrick O'Brien received his primary education in the public schools at Winchester and for one year attended Kentucky Wesleyan College. His family in 1906 moved to Lexington. His first employment there was with the Traffic Department of the East Tennessee Telephone Company. His newspaper career began in Winchester in 1908 where he was correspondent for the Lexington Herald. His later assignment covered the activities of the Burley Tobacco Raisers Association, which organization had recently come into existence. It was through this work that he received such recognition as a newspaper man as to be called to Lexington to do reportorial work for the *Herald* in that city. After covering many important assignments he left Kentucky in January, 1910 to become associated with his brother-in-law who had recently bought the *Enid Morning News*, Enid, Oklahoma. His work was afterwards recognized by *The Daily Oklahoman* and he became a member of its staff in 1912 and in turn covered the City Hall and other assignments and then became Reporter at the State Capitol. He covered all Sessions of the Legislature as well as all State Departments. In 1917 he resigned his position with *The Oklahoman* and became private secretary to the Governor, and served in that capacity until March 31, 1917 when he became the Washington Correspondent for *The Oklahoman* and opened up the Washington Bureau during World War I, an important post as it had to do with all war news. He covered both the United States House and Senate as well as the War Department and all other agencies of interest to Oklahoma, and advised all Oklahoma families direct of war casualties, etc.

After the close of World War I he returned to Oklahoma and was with *The Oklahoman* until December 23, 1919 when he again became private Secretary in the Governor's Office for four years.

In January, 1923 he became a Member of the 9th Legislature from the 5th District of Oklahoma County. After the adjournment of the Legislature he again became a reporter for *The Oklahoman*.

In 1926 as a State Representative he was with the Barber Asphalt Company. In 1928 he was secretary-manager to the Oklahoma Motor and Truck Operators Association, in which capacity he served until he resigned to become manager for the Yellow Transit Freight Lines in Oklahoma City.

In 1931 he was publicity director and statistician for the State Highway Department serving until December 21, 1934. In January, 1935 he became secretary to the State Corporation Commission and served in that capacity four years, later being appointed Oil & Gas Inspector of Oklahoma County for the same department.

When the United States Employment Service (now the War Man Power Commission) was established he became Informational Director, which position he held until his death.



In the latter part of 1930 and through 1931 when the late Judge Samuel W. Hayes was Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee he was publicity director of the State Democratic Headquarters and filled the same position while R. M. McCool was State Chairman.

He was Publicity Director for the campaign committee that managed the campaign for Tom Anglin in his candidacy for Governor.

On September 1, 1926 Joe O'Brien and Mary Gorman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thomas Gorman, of Oklahoma City, were united in marriage, and she survives him.

The first term of his position as private secretary to Governor of the State did not last long on account of the World War I being on and his services being needed by *The Oklahoman* as a reporter from the Washington Office, but as private secretary his association with the writer created a lasting friendship and now having crossed the Great Divide, it is my pleasure to aid in recording his efficient and brilliant services and attest to his sterling character.

By Robert L. Williams

*Durant, Oklahoma*

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## JAMES J. SAVAGE

1871-1943

James J. Savage, the oldest son of a large family, was born in Grayson County, Texas, on September 16, 1871, and died at Hollis, Oklahoma, on October 4, 1943. His parents, the Reverend H. T. Savage, a Baptist preacher, and his wife (nee Laura Harmon), having moved from Missouri to Grayson County, removed to Brown County, Texas, while their son, James, was a child. He was reared and educated in Brown County. Industrious and energetic, he did not hesitate to take hold of any labor that was honorable. At the age of twenty-one years, he graduated from the Business Department of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas, in which institution he was also a student in the Department of Education. He taught school for eight years in Texas.

In 1898, he located in what was then Greer County and filed on land at McKnight, later moving north of the Salt Fork where he and his family afterward maintained their home. He was a member of the Baptist Church, a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He taught school and was cashier of a bank, taking part in every progressive and worthwhile enterprise and holding many important places of trust throughout his life.

He was elected as a delegate to represent District 48 in the Convention to prepare a constitution for the State of Oklahoma, having been nominated as a Democrat on September 28, 1906, receiving in the primary 608 votes to 227 on the part of his opponent. He served in the Convention on the following committees: (1) Education, (2) Immigration (Chairman), (3) Homestead and Exemptions, (4) Legislative Apportionment, (5) Public Health and Sanitation.

He was a member of the Second State Legislature, from Greer County, postoffice McKnight. He served on the State Board of Agriculture for eight years, as follows: Appointed by Governor Robert L. Williams May 19, 1915; reappointed by Governor J. B. A. Robertson January 18, 1919, and served until May 1, 1923. He served as warden of the Granite Reformatory from February 18, 1926, to January 18, 1928. He served as president of the Altus Production and Credit Association from its organization until January, 1943, when he retired on account of his health.



JAMES J. SAVAGE









ALBERT LYMAN WELSH

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Harry Ratliff of Mountain Park and Edna Savage of Fort Supply; six brothers, W. T. Savage, Dallas, Texas; George B. Savage, Brownwood, Texas; J. B. Savage, Roswell, New Mexico; Edgar Savage, Los Angeles, California; Carroll Savage, Abilene, Texas; and two sisters, Mrs. Edna Savage Saunders, Brownwood, Texas, and Mrs. May Savage Douglas, San Antonio, Texas; two grandchildren, Harry O. Ratliff, Jr., Mountain Park, Oklahoma, and Dorothy June Duvall, Dodson, Texas; and one great-grandchild, Melvin Goldwyn Duvall, Dodson, Texas. His grandson, Lt. James J. Ratliff, U. S. army air corps, died in action December 28, 1943, in England.

As a fine and exemplary citizen, husband and father and public servant, the Honorable James J. Savage will be remembered in Oklahoma. Members of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' lodges, in regalia, had charge of the final rites at the cemetery, where he was laid to rest as one of Harmon County's most outstanding citizens.<sup>1</sup>

By Robert L. Williams

*Durant, Oklahoma*

<sup>1</sup> *Harmon County Leader*, October 7, 1943; *Daily Oklahoman*, October 5, 1943.

## ALBERT LYMAN WELSH

1859-1934

Albert Lyman Welsh, son of John and Jerusha Welsh, was born December 8, 1859, in Geauga County, Ohio, and died November 9, 1934, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The father was a farmer, both he and his wife being of sturdy pioneer stock and members of the Baptist Church in Ohio. The son, best known to his friends as "Al" Welsh, was educated in the public schools of his native state. He moved west as a young man and served four years as assistant postmaster at Newton, Kansas.

On May 1, 1889, ten days after the "Run," Al Welsh came to Oklahoma City where he was appointed and served three years as assistant cashier of the Citizens' Bank. He was married on July 15, 1890, in Oklahoma City, to Annie Laurie Robertson, a daughter of Robert Hamilton and Martha Robertson, of Madisonville, Kentucky.

In December, 1892, Mr. Welsh entered into partnership with J. M. Owen, in the abstract and real estate business, a partnership that continued for forty-one years. For eleven years, Mr. Welsh was secretary of the Oklahoma City Building & Loan Association until elected its Vice-President and Director, serving in these offices for many years.

He was actively engaged in all forward looking, civic matters, serving two years on the the City Council and four years on the School Board. He always maintained active membership in the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and the First Baptist Church. In politics, he was a Republican. He directed the Community Fund's activities for a year, as President of the Fund. He served the '89ers Association for a term and was included in the Association's roll of Charter Members. He was a 32nd Degree Mason, member of Oklahoma City Lodge No. 36, Free and Accepted Masons, and of Oklahoma Consistory, No. 1, Guthrie. He was a member of India Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; and of the Oklahoma Golf and Country Club, and the Oklahoma Club, Oklahoma City.

He is survived by his wife, and son, Francis; daughter-in-law, Lena, and grandson, Albert Lyman Welsh, II.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Data supplied by the family and by reference to Joseph B. Thoburn and Muriel H. Wright, *Oklahoma: A History of the State and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc., 1929), Vol. III, p. 88.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
APRIL 27, 1944

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society convened in the Historical Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 27, 1944, with Judge Thomas H. Doyle, President Emeritus, presiding.

The roll was called by the Secretary and showed the following members present: Judge Thomas H. Doyle, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Mrs. Jessie E. Moore, Gen. Charles F. Barrett, Hon. George L. Bowman, Hon. Thomas J. Harrison, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Hon. W. J. Peterson, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. John R. Williams and James W. Moffitt, the Secretary.

The motion was made and seconded and unanimously carried that the members of the Board not present be excused on account of being unavoidably detained.

Judge Robert A. Hefner introduced Mr. Lyall Barnhart who appeared before the Board in behalf of the United Service Organization asking for the loan of some exhibits from the Historical Society Museum for the USO museum in the Bass Building, Oklahoma City.

A motion was made by Hon. W. J. Peterson that the Chair appoint a committee to consult with a committee from the USO as to the kind of exhibits they wanted and to work out plans for the exhibit if it could be legally done.

The reading of the minutes of the meeting of January 27, 1944, upon motion, duly seconded, was passed except as same may be called up for consideration at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Treasurer, read her report. Upon motion, duly seconded, it was received and placed on file.

Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Chairman of the Membership Committee, read his report which upon motion was seconded and approved.

The motion was made that the report of the Chairman of the Membership Committee be mimeographed and each member of the Board furnished a copy thereof. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Chairman of the Membership Committee, made the motion that the Board of Directors, the staff and other members of the Society be urged to secure new members for the Society. The motion was seconded by General Barrett and unanimously carried.

Judge R. A. Hefner offered a prize of \$50 to the one securing the most new members during the ensuing year.

The following list of applicants for membership was received:

LIFE: J. T. (Jack) Griffin, Muskogee; and George S. Lowrey, Woodward.

ANNUAL: Mrs. E. R. Adams, Guthrie; Mrs. R. N. Andeel, Wagoner; Mrs. W. O. Beall, Tulsa; Paul Boone, Stillwater; Gerald L. Brown, Enid; Abner Bruce, Oklahoma City; James Mark Calloway, Tulsa; Mrs. Herbert D. Canfield, Oklahoma City; Willard N. Carter, Henryetta; Mrs. Lillian E.

Christian, Oklahoma City; Carol J. Christian, Weatherford; Mrs. John T. Compton, Tulsa; Harold P. Cook, Guthrie; Mrs. George Cottle, San Miguel, California; T. L. Coulter, Jefferson; Willard Coppock, Cherokee; John E. Daniels, Toronto, Kansas; G. T. Davis, Peninsula, Ohio; W. O. Dickenson, Tulsa; Richard L. Disney, Washington, D. C.; A. C. Elliott, Tulsa; Newal A. Ellis, Covington; Water B. Emery, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Lawrence Foster, Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Judge Mike Foster, Oklahoma City; Glenda Pat Frantz, Oklahoma City; John L. George, Oklahoma City; Frank Glenn, Kansas City, Missouri; Rev. Julius Harkey, Colbert; Wallace Hawkins, Dallas, Texas; Miss Odetta Hendricks, Ft. Worth, Texas; James Hess, Oklahoma City; Herbert M. Holcomb, Dallas, Texas; Harry M. House, Oklahoma City; Mrs. E. W. Hunt, Leedey; Oscar B. Jacobson, Norman; Leon Jaffe, Brooklyn, New York; Mrs. Elza Jarboe, Norman; Mrs. Frank Keller, Shawnee; R. C. Kennedy, Pauls Valley; Mrs. A. P. Kidwell, Guthrie; Mrs. R. B. Knox, Oklahoma City; B. E. Koonce, Tulsa; Mrs. H. Blaine Lacy, Tulsa; Mrs. Frank LeCrone, Tulsa; Miss Eva Lewers, Eufaula; W. E. Lewis, Guthrie; Conn Linn, Tulsa; Mrs. Mary Lou London, Tulsa; F. M. Lumbard, Muskogee; Walter T. McCracken, Oklahoma City; D. C. McCroskey, Asher; Mrs. E. V. McInnis, Brookhaven, Mississippi; M. E. Melvin, Oklahoma City; Carl N. Morgan, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Rathia Naifeh, Norman; Mrs. Ben F. Oliver, Sayre; Mrs. Howard Patton, Woodward; George W. Phinney, Oklahoma City; Thomas W. Prentice, Ponca City; J. B. Regier, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Mary Ann Rheam, Tulsa; T. C. Richardson, Oklahoma City; Mrs. John M. Robe, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Earl Rodkey, Edmond; Kate Bennett Scott, Tulsa; L. P. Scott, Wakita; Mrs. Carrie Shelley, West Tulsa; Lucy V. Short, Oklahoma City; Miss June Smith, Tulsa; Reuben K. Sparks, Woodward; Mrs. P. L. Speaker, Shawnee; E. E. Stephens, Shawnee; Earl R. Suits, Turley; Jesse A. Todd, Oklahoma City; W. A. Truax, Shidler; J. O. Tuton, Lawton; W. R. Wallace, Oklahoma City; Rev. E. C. Webb, Cushing; C. C. Williamson, Haskell; Jack W. Wood, Oklahoma City; Miss Janet Wood, Tulsa; Mose Wright, Tulsa; Park Wyatt and Mrs. Park Wyatt, Shawnee.

Mrs. Jessie E. Moore presented *The Story of Paducah*, gift of Fred G. Neuman, the author, for the library of the Historical Society.

The motion was made that the gift be accepted with an expression of thanks to the donor. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. H. L. Muldrow presented three volumes of the Senate document *Affairs of the Mexican Kickapoo Indians*, the gift of Mr. Sam Calhoun of Oklahoma City.

Mr. Muldrow also called to the attention of the Board the gift by Mr. Clyde Pickard of Norman to the Oklahoma Historical Society Museum of a large Rose Rock of Sand-Barite.

The motion was made that these gifts be received and the Secretary was directed to express to the donors the thanks of the society. Motion was seconded and carried.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour presented a miniature of Mrs. Tom B. Ferguson, wife of the sixth territorial governor, a gift to the Society by Mrs. Ferguson. Senator Bowman moved that it be accepted. The motion, duly seconded, carried unanimously. The Secretary was directed to express to the donor the appreciation and thanks of the Board for this gift.

Hon. Thomas J. Harrison made a motion that the Board adhere strictly to the laws in regard to public property wherein as it has no right to take any of the exhibits from this building to lend them out. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

The motion was made that the former motions in regard to permitting the lending of exhibits from the Historical Society Museum be repealed, and all reference that might be construed as permitting such lending be considered as of no effect as same would be contrary to law. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Carl Sweezy displayed some of his Indian paintings which are for sale. The Chair referred the matter to the art committee.

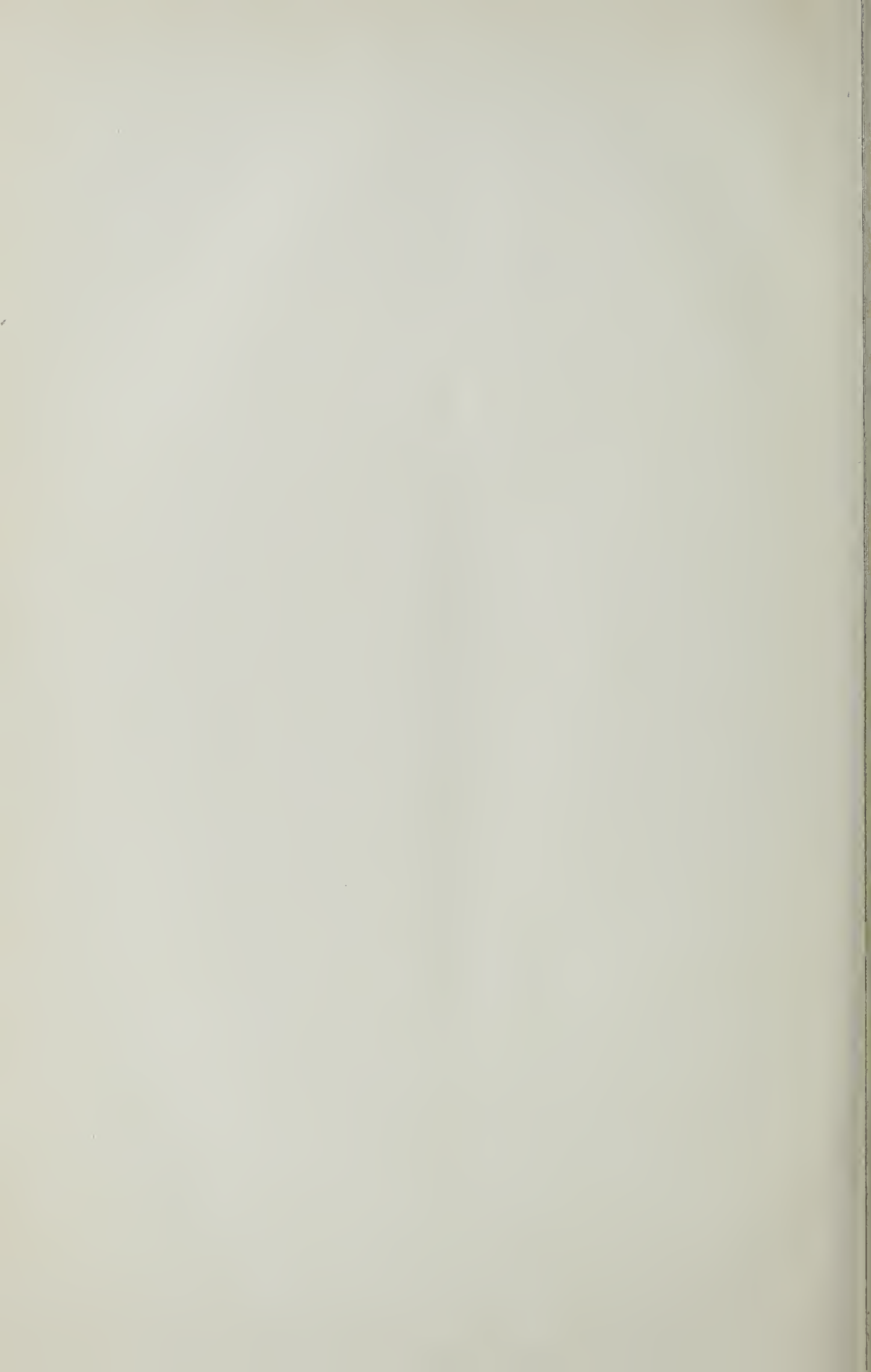
Upon motion, the meeting stood adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Thomas H. Doyle, President  
Emeritus presiding

James W. Moffitt, Secretary







RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE  
OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Secretary, Oklahoma Historical Society,  
Historical Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

I nominate for membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society:

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: Annual membership is \$1; life membership is \$25. The Oklahoma Historical Society sends *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* to its members.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date\_\_\_\_\_19\_\_\_\_

To the Oklahoma Historical Society:

I hereby request that the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society elect me to Annual, Life, membership in the Society. In order to expedite the transaction, I herewith send the required fee \$\_\_\_\_\_.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

P. O. Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The historical quarterly magazine is sent free to all members.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP due (no entrance fee), one dollar in advance.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP fee (free from all dues thereafter), \$25.00. Annual members may become life members at any time upon the payment of the fee of twenty-five dollars. This form of membership is recommended to those who are about to join the Society. It is more economical in the long run and it obviates all trouble incident to the paying of annual dues.

All checks or drafts for membership fees or dues should be made payable to the order of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

## THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Oklahoma Historical Society was organized by a group of Oklahoma Territory newspaper men interested in the history of Oklahoma who assembled in Kingfisher, May 26, 1893.

The major objective of the Society involves the promotion of interest and research in Oklahoma history, the collection and preservation of the State's historical records, pictures, and relics. The Society also seeks the co-operation of all citizens of Oklahoma in gathering these materials.

*The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, published quarterly by the Society in spring, summer, autumn, and winter, is distributed free to its members. Each issue contains scholarly articles as well as those of popular interest, together with book reviews, historical notes, etc. Such contributions will be considered for publication by the editors and the Publication Committee.

Membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society is open to everyone interested. The quarterly is designed for college and university professors, for those engaged in research in Oklahoma and Indian history, for high school history teachers, for others interested in the State's history, and for librarians. The annual dues are \$1.00 and include a subscription to *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. A free sample copy will be sent upon request. Life membership may be secured upon the payment of \$25.00. All dues and correspondence relating thereto should be sent direct to the Secretary, Oklahoma Historical Society, Historical Society Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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